



## FASHION

Everyone has a crush on velvet

Iain R Webb, page 15



## ADVENTURE AT SEA

Win a round-world berth with Chay Blyth

Ocean Challenge, page 23



## JAMES BAKER

Exclusive insight on Middle East peace

Bitter realities, page 12

30p  
SAVE 15p



# THE TIMES

No. 64,747

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13 1993

RM

## Middle East on terror alert

# Israeli troops die on eve of peace signing

FROM RICHARD BEESTON  
IN JERUSALEM AND  
CHRISTOPHER WALKER  
IN CAIRO

YASSIR Arafat and Yitzhak Rabin flew yesterday to Washington for the signing of today's historic agreement between the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Israel at a White House ceremony.

But the euphoria was tempered by renewed violence in the Middle East, and security forces throughout the region will be put on alert today to prevent any attempt by Palestinian radicals or Islamic militants to launch a terrorism spectacular.

In a weekend of violence orchestrated by radical Palestinians opposed to the "declaration of principles", three Israeli soldiers were shot dead in Gaza and two members of a radical Palestinian group were killed. A lone Palestinian killed an Israeli bus driver and stabbed several passengers before being shot dead by a soldier on the main road outside the port of Ashdod.

Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli

**■ Signing the Israel-PLO peace deal, backed by Western financial support, opens the way for a wider peace. But violent opposition is gathering pace**

prime minister, and Shimon Peres, the foreign minister, were given a heroes' send-off at Ben Gurion airport.

Mr Arafat set off from Tunis wearing a guerrilla fighter's gun strapped to his waist and dressed in his familiar olive-green combat fatigues. Palestinian sources disclosed that two suits had been packed, indicating that he might yet use his sartorial style at the ceremony on the White House lawn to demonstrate his transformation to statesman.

He vowed that he would be back in the West Bank and Gaza Strip within the next ten weeks, and said provocatively that Jerusalem would become the capital of the Palestinian state. Close aides said he still hoped to sign the agreement with Mr Rabin, though it was not clear whether he would try to embrace him. Mr Rabin said he would not sign, though he was "wholeheartedly behind the agreement". Mr Rabin's wife Lea told state radio that he would shake hands with Mr Arafat, but that it would not be easy after three decades of conflict. Mr Peres said: "I will shake Yassir Arafat's hand, because this is a peace between two peoples."

Jordan meanwhile announced that it also expects to announce agreement with Israel tomorrow. A spokesman said the two countries would hold a joint press conference at the State Department on an agenda for future peace talks.

Unprecedented steps will be taken to protect Mr Arafat in the United States. *Rose al-Yousef*, a Cairo magazine, reported that snipers were being trained in southern Lebanon to assassinate him.

Mr Arafat left the Arab world on a defensive note, demonstrating the extent of internal dissent. By early last night, five members of the PLO's 18-strong executive committee had resigned in protest. The pact has also been attacked by Farouk Kadoumi, the PLO's self-styled foreign minister, who last week was being mooted as one of two men who might sign the deal on behalf of the PLO.

The ten Damascus-based

Palestinian groups united in opposition to the deal have restricted their protest to a call for a general strike and marches in the occupied territories and in refugee camps in Jordan and Lebanon.

In the Gaza Strip yesterday, Iyad Radwan, 20, a Palestinian on Israel's "wanted" list, died when a grenade he was holding exploded at the Shabura refugee camp in Rafah. On the West Bank police opened fire on Saturday on an anti-peace demonstration in Ramallah, killing two protesters and injuring 22 others, including an Australian journalist.

European Community foreign ministers meeting in a Belgian chateau yesterday agreed to give and loan a total of 500 million euros (£333 million) to the occupied territories over five years up to 1999. Aid already planned for the territories will be increased by 20 million euros. Mr Arafat will today be invited to an unprecedented meeting of EC



Arafat provocative words on Jerusalem

foreign ministers by Willy Claes, the Belgian foreign minister, who will attend the signing with Jacques Delors, the European Commission president.

Israeli and Palestinian delegations will come to Brussels during the next few weeks to discuss aid and economic links. Israel will immediately begin discussing a broader and deeper trade access deal.

Bitter realities, page 12

## Public schools plan standards monitors

By BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

LEADING public schools are planning to introduce regular inspections in a drive to tighten standards and keep pace with greater openness in the state system.

The Headmasters' Conference (HMC), which represents 238 independent schools, is expected to approve a blueprint this week requiring members to open their doors to teams of experienced teachers with the power to recommend removal from the exclusive club. The proposals are designed to fend off any attempt to extend to the private sector the new monitoring regime that ensures state schools are inspected every four years.

They reflect growing awareness of the need for accountability, both to parents paying annual fees of up to £10,000 and to taxpayers contributing more than £75 million under the assisted places scheme. Traditionally, private

schools have been reluctant to allow outside inspection, arguing that they are answerable for their performance in the marketplace. The creation of the Headmasters' Conference in the 1870s was partly a response to a threat of government inspection.

The plan, drawn up by a working party led by James Sabben-Clare, headmaster of Winchester College, will be debated on Wednesday at the annual meeting of the conference in Oxford. It follows meetings with the government inspection agency, the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted).

Under the proposals, six inspectors would spend about five days at a typical school, attending lessons and talking to staff and pupils. Each team would be led by an Ofsted-Continued on page 2, col 4

Letters, page 17  
Education, page 29



Stephen Wiltshire enjoying his new-found talent at the piano. His teacher says "his ear is so developed that teaching him is like flying"

## Autistic youth has 'the genius of Mozart'

By NIGEL HAWKES  
SCIENCE EDITOR

STEPHEN Wiltshire, the autistic boy who amazed art critics with his ability to draw buildings after only a glance, has revealed a new talent as a musical savant. He has a talent similar to Mozart's, the ability to "hold" the music in his head and play it through mentally, imagining exactly how it sounds.

Dr Oliver Sacks, a neurologist from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York, attended a music lesson and declared his talent "extraordinary, quite extraordinary". He says: "It is time to replace the repellent notion that 'idiots savants' are automata with something more

interesting — they have real creative intelligence."

The discovery has excited psychologists because the talents of so-called "idiots savants" are generally limited to one area — music, art, or the ability to calculate instantly, for example. Savants with a double skill are almost unknown, and Mr Wiltshire's ability may shed new light on the mystery of how they do it.

Mr Wiltshire, now 19, was an autistic child, withdrawn, mute, and apparently of low intelligence, until his artistic abilities were discovered at school. After a brief look at a scene, he was able to produce sketches of remarkable accuracy and perspective at great speed, prompting Sir Hugh Casson to declare him "the best child

artist in Britain". Three books of his drawings have been published.

His other skills were discovered this summer by his music teacher, Evelyn Preston. He has perfect pitch and is able to recognise the key in which a piece of music is played. She says: "With him I can approach regions of musical understanding that I can't with any other pupil."

Linda Pring, of the psychology department at Goldsmith's College, London, who is conducting research into savants, says Mr Wiltshire's musical talents are amazing. "None of our other savants has more than one talent," she says. "In the whole of the scientific literature I have found only one previous example."

Unlike some other musical prodigies, Mr Wiltshire's talent is for analysing music rather than playing it, though he does have what Dr Pring describes as an absolutely lovely voice. One day Ms Preston told him she was not sure of the chord sequence in the song *What a Wonderful World*, knowing that he had a recording of it at home.

At the next lesson, he told her the correct sequence of chords. "My mouth dropped to my knees," she says. "It was absolutely wonderful. He had done it, and he was completely accurate. His ear is so developed that teaching him is like flying — he can go just as far as I can take him."

Genius to amaze, page 14  
Leading article, page 17

## TOMORROW

### The Great British Quiz



YOUR starter for prizes worth £20,000 in *The Times* can be found in Bamber Gascoigne's Great British Quiz. Readers who can answer 100 questions this week, 20 questions each day, based on the quiz master's new *Encyclopaedia of Britain* could go through to a final hosted by Gascoigne himself. The quiz and extracts from the encyclopedia begin tomorrow

Arts	33-34
Births, marriages, deaths	18
Books	5-6
Chess	5-6
Education	29
Leading articles	17
Letters	17-19
University Vacancies	20
Weather	32
TV & Radio	39

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## Visas 'sold' by schools

By JACK CROSSLEY  
AND KATE ALDERSON

LANGUAGE schools are offering courses in Britain for as little as 70p an hour, enabling so-called "students" to work and stay here. Some 12-month courses cost as little as £500, laying schools open to the allegation that they are little more than "visa factories".

Established schools of English, recognised by the British Council, are calling on the government to regulate the industry and stamp out bogus operators who they fear are ruining their reputation.

Price-slashing by disreputable operators is forcing some legitimate schools out of business, as genuine students unwittingly choose inexpensive, sub-standard courses.

"Visas for sale", page 7

## Hill makes it three in a row

DAMON Hill won his third successive formula one race yesterday by taking the Italian grand prix at Monza, after his Williams team-mate, Alain Prost, retired with engine failure. Hill's father, Graham, won the same race at the same track in 1962.

Prost, who needed a win to clinch his fourth world drivers' title, appeared to have held off a late charge by Hill when his Renault engine blew four laps from the end of the 53-lap race.

The Briton's success went almost unnoticed at the track as the Italian crowd celebrated Jean Alesi's second place in a Ferrari.

Race report, page 21

## Heavy rail cuts intensify row on privatisation

By NICHOLAS WOOD AND TIM JONES

MINISTERS were embroiled in a controversy over rail privatisation last night after British Rail confirmed the most savage cuts in winter services for ten years.

John MacGregor, the transport secretary, who flew to the United States on business last night, insisted publicly before his departure that BR's move was triggered by a drop in travellers and was unrelated to his contested plans to bring

discredit the privatisation programme so that it was halted or diluted. One senior Whitehall source said that Sir Bob was "more public sector than the public sector" and "still pretty hostile to privatisation".

One minister added: "It is all part of the privatisation battle."

With Tory MPs becoming increasingly anxious about the sell-off plans and party activists planning to air their concerns at the Tory conference next month, ministers were thrown onto the defensive as they sought to prevent the latest clash over cuts becoming entangled in the arguments over privatisation.

Mr MacGregor, under pressure over a Lords amendment that would keep BR afloat by allowing it to compete with private firms for rail franchises, left the impression he might back down. In a softening of his previous stance, he denied that letting BR bid would destroy the bill, which faces its final Commons hurdle next month.

The danger facing the government last night was that the sudden threat of a rapid rundown in rail services could tarnish the already unpopular franchising proposal.

Under BR's proposed winter timetable, due to come in on October 4, more than 5,000 Sunday trains, representing 2.5 million seats, will disappear and 50 stations will close for the day. A whole swathe of middle England and Wales, Continued on page 2, col 1

Matthew Parris, page 16  
Leading article, page 17

## AP AUDEMARS PIGUET

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## Arms-for-Iraq enquiry faces attacks from Whitehall

By MICHAEL DYNES  
WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

LORD Justice Scott's public hearing into arms exports to Iraq reconvenes today amid what has been called a Whitehall whispering campaign to discredit the way the enquiry is being conducted.

The Scott team is accused of failing to understand the basic mechanics of government, especially in the shady world of the international arms trade, and of going beyond its terms of reference by addressing itself to the "ethical and moral" dimension of the lucrative arms export trade with Iraq.

It is impossible to assess whether such criticisms are merely the grumblings of a handful of civil servants, irritated at having been put on the rack, or an attempt by ministers and officials, anxious about the outcome, to get their retaliation in first.

What is clear, however, is that the enquiry, which has failed to command much prominence in the headlines, is likely to receive considerably more exposure over the forthcoming weeks as high profile ministers and former ministers give evidence.

The new session begins with testimony from David Gore-Booth, a former assistant under-secretary at the Foreign Office responsible for the Middle East, now Britain's ambassador to Saudi Arabia. He will be followed next week by Timothy Renton, Foreign Office minister between 1985-7; David Mellor, Foreign Office minister 1987-8; and William Waldegrave, Foreign Office minister 1988-90.

They are understood to have spent much of the summer, with the help of Foreign Office researchers, working

on written submissions to the enquiry. Dates have yet to be set for Baroness Thatcher, Lord Howe, Alan Clark and Michael Heseltine.

Government nervousness over the outcome of the Scott enquiry is likely to be accentuated in November, when the convictions against four businessmen, employed by Ordtec, who were charged last year with illegally selling equipment to Jordan, knowing it was destined for Iraq, are expected to be quashed.

Lord Justice Scott says he is unaware of any attempt to discredit the enquiry. All requests for government documents — now in excess of 115,000 — have been or are being complied with.

With the exception of Sir David Miers, a former assistant under-secretary at the Foreign Office, now ambassador to The Netherlands, who accused the Scott team of "misunderstanding how the system works", no witness has made a formal complaint about the way in which the enquiry is being conducted.

While some witnesses have been less forthcoming than others, which has clearly irritated Lord Justice Scott and Presley Baxendale QC, counsel to the enquiry, the judge is adamant that he does not believe he is "holding a gun pointing at the heart of government".

Nevertheless, Whitehall's phobia can be expected to increase in the months ahead. Because of the sheer volume of documents to be examined, the judge does not expect to finish public hearings before the end of January, putting back publication of his report until Easter.

Peter Riddell, page 16

## Sunday trains axed

Continued from page 1  
from Aberystwyth in the west to Lincoln and Norwich in the east, will suffer most from the cuts, which are far more drastic than last year's.

In addition, some weekday west London commuter services, which Network South-East says are insufficiently used, will start an hour later and finish earlier. A significant number of London weekday trains to Southampton, Christchurch and Weymouth will also be withdrawn. Hardest hit will be Lincoln in East Anglia, with its 15 winter Sunday trains on three routes being replaced by four on one route. Kenneth Carlisle, the MP for the city, said he was so

incensed by the news that he plans to lead a delegation to argue the case with Roger Freeman, the rail minister.

British Rail said that railways had to match resources to demand for services. "The most effective way to deal with this is to stop empty trains running around." It is anxious to reduce its overtime payments for Sunday shifts.

John Prescott, shadow transport secretary, said: "More and more people are going to be packed into fewer and fewer trains. It is all about saving money and paying for the privatisation programme."

Matthew Parris, page 16  
Leading article, page 17

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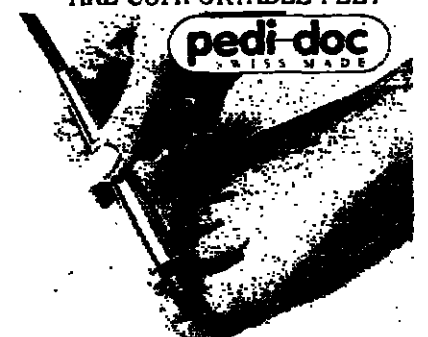
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## Woman killed in housing demolition

By JENNY KNIGHT

A WOMAN was killed and three others injured by flying wreckage when two tower blocks were demolished in Glasgow yesterday.

Helen Tunney, 61, who was initially thought to have suffered a heart attack after the explosion, was found to have chest wounds when she was taken to Victoria Hospital.

Police immediately launched an enquiry into safety precautions, headed by Chief Supt Kenneth Morrison, after the demolition of the housing estate in Queen Elizabeth Square. The ferocity of the blasts left the crowds shaken.

Insp Steven Horrocks, of Glasgow

police, said: "When Mrs Tunney got to hospital she was found to have chest injuries, presumably caused by flying debris."

Another woman received a cut to her forearm and a 61-year-old man injured his leg. A police officer was also injured. A pregnant woman in the crowd fainted and was also taken to hospital after the explosion, which was watched by thousands of people from behind barriers.

The blast was believed to be the largest demolition with the controlled use of explosives since the second world war. Traffic on the Kingston bridge across the Clyde was halted during the demolition. Car later jammed the streets in the city's east when spectators attempted to leave.

Deirdre Boyle, 34, of nearby Commercial Court said: "I found it really frightening. I didn't expect it to come down with such a bang." Another spectator, Elizabeth Gibb, said: "I'm shattered. I wasn't expecting it when it happened."

Maureen Boyce, who watched the demolition with her 83-year-old mother, said: "I remember the Queen opening the flats. They were good people who lived there, but recently there were problems with drugs in the flats."

The flat-roofed blocks, designed by Sir Basil Spence, were riddled with damp and condensation. Water had penetrated the roof, affecting the safety of the high elevators.

## Baker tells Major to hold line on VAT

By NICHOLAS WOOD  
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH Baker, the former Conservative party chairman, yesterday urged the government to stand firm over VAT as it emerged that a fierce battle over the extent of compensation for poor people needing help with heating bills. "The issue should be tackled head on," he said. "There should be toughness here."

In a separate development in the battle over public spending, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, did not deny a report that the Treasury is seeking a 20 per cent cut in the £1.9 billion overseas aid budget. He said that all government departments had been asked how they would cope with cuts but discussions were at an early stage.

Michael Meacher, the Labour spokesman, said that such

a cut would reduce the aid budget to 0.26 per cent of national output, the lowest ever and well below the 0.7 per cent United Nations target that Britain had agreed to.

On VAT, the Treasury is resisting pressure from Peter Lilley, the social security secretary, for help towards heating bills to be extended to pensioners and families just above the poverty line. It wants to restrict assistance to income support claimants but Mr Lilley is pressing for a package costing up to £1 billion.

On BBC television, Mr Baker urged his former colleagues not to capitulate in the face of grassroots pressure, voiced in about 30 critical motions submitted for the Blackpool conference next month. He said that Mr Major and the Chancellor should "go out and argue for it".

Letters, page 17

## Patten warns of job cost in pay claim

By NICHOLAS WOOD  
AND BEN PRESTON

TENSION was renewed between the government and teachers' leaders last night after John Patten denounced a claim for a pay rise higher than inflation as a recipe for thousands of job losses.

Amid indications that the National Union of Teachers is to seek a 10 per cent rise from next April in its evidence to the independent review body, the education secretary called for common sense and said that an increase of that level could be met only by sacking 60,000

the names of 14 schools prepared to experiment with performance-related pay for teachers. Within the existing pay bill, they will be encouraged to pay bonuses.

Mr Patten said: "If an annual award of 10 per cent were granted, that would mean the loss of 60,000 jobs in teaching. We need sensible settlements."

The education department, which submits its evidence to the review body today, is expected to highlight figures showing that there are only 1,000 vacancies among the 470,000 teaching force, compared with 6,000-7,000 in 1990, and that 30,000 new teachers are coming on to the market every year.

Audenshaw High, a grant-maintained secondary near Manchester, is among the 14 schools that have volunteered for the pilot scheme on performance-related pay. Graham Locke, the head teacher, said that teachers would be eligible for bonuses of up to £1,000 in five key areas: classroom teaching, extra-curricular activities, management, pastoral care and examination results.

Mr Locke said performance pay was no substitute for a national settlement tied to the cost of living. "It would be ludicrous for the government to jeopardise teacher morale by trying to use performance pay as a means of reducing the overall settlement."

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters' Union of Women Teachers, accused Mr Patten of scaremongering. "Ministers make the same warnings about job losses every year. Last year we were restricted to a 1.5 per cent increase and thousands of teachers still lost their jobs." The NUT declined to confirm that it would demand a 10 per cent increase.

Letters, page 17



Patten: "Be sensible"

teachers. A union chief accused Mr Patten of scaremongering.

After Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, confirmed last week that the government remains committed to tight control of the £80bn public sector pay bill, Mr Patten's intervention will be seen as the first move in what ministers fear will prove a testing pay round this winter. It was also a warning to the six teacher unions that their success in forcing the government into a partial retreat over classroom tests would not readily be repeated on the pay front.

In a signal that he shares Mr Clarke's enthusiasm for an end to automatic annual rises, Mr Patten will announce

## Monitors plan for schools

Continued from page 1  
approved inspector, with the remainder experienced teachers from conference schools, possibly including a governor or bursar.

The head teacher of the school under inspection would have the right to correct only factual errors before the report was submitted to the governing body. Ofsted and the conference. A summary would also be available for parents. From next September, schools would be inspected every seven years, with the Headmasters' Conference trying to time reports so they took place about two years after any new head teacher took charge.

Vivian Anthony, secretary of the conference, said the "self-help" model would keep inspection costs to an estimated £6,000 per school, compared with up to £40,000 under Ofsted. Teacher inspectors would be drawn from schools with a similar ethos, so, for example, Manchester Grammar might be assessed by staff from another highly academic school such as St Paul's in London.

Mr Sabben-Clare said conference schools would be able to opt for Ofsted inspections if they preferred. "There is a public mood towards more openness and accountability," he said.

Although Ofsted is already responsible for ensuring the 2,500 independent schools meet a minimum standard, it produces only about 12 reports each year, concentrating on those believed to be at the margin. Private boarding schools are also inspected under the Children Act.

Letters, page 17  
Education, page 29

## Olympic champions back Manchester

More than 1,200 Britons who competed in the Olympic Games from 1924 to 1992 have declared their support for Manchester's £2.5 billion application to stage the 2000 Games. They signed a document that Bob Scott, the leader of the Manchester team, will take this week to Monte Carlo, where the International Olympic Committee will vote on the venue on September 23.

Among the signatories are the Olympic champions Linford Christie, Sally Gunnell, the Seacrest brothers, Steve Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent, Chris Boardman and Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean. About 400 sportsmen and women, from as far as the US and Canada, attended the ceremony at the Tower of London on Saturday. The prime minister will travel to Monte Carlo to support the bid.

## Heseltine to return

Michael Heseltine, who suffered a heart attack in Venice in July, is expected to resume responsibility for trade and industry at the end of this month. Whitehall officials said that Mr Heseltine, 60, President of the Board of Trade, had started to see DTI papers and would attend occasional meetings before resuming control.

## Soldier impaled on post

An off-duty soldier impaled on a fence post after a motorway accident clambered up a 30ft embankment on the M5 near Gloucester to get help, police said. Paul Johnson, 18, of Wednesbury, Staffordshire, who was found with a wooden post through his chest and left shoulder, was recovering last night in Cheltenham General Hospital.

## Urquhart charge

Graeme West, 32, a self-employed builder of Thornton Heath, south London, was charged yesterday with the murder of Donald Urquhart, a millionaire businessman, on January 2. He will appear before Marylebone magistrates in central London today. Another man was released on police bail having been arrested in connection with the death.

## Two accused of murder

Two Russians face execution after being arrested and charged with the murder of a British oil worker. Andrew Herring, 29, from Abergeveny, Gwent, was allegedly murdered while working on contract with a US oil company in Siberia last month. He was found strangled in a river three days after he failed to return to his staff quarters.

## Police chiefs fight back

The Police Superintendents' Association is to ask members to increase their annual subscriptions by £30 to raise £60,000 for a fighting fund. It has engaged the international public relations firm Hill & Knowlton to counter the Sheehy Report, which recommended scrapping the rank of chief superintendent, and the white paper on policing reforms.

## Policemen blinded

Two policemen were temporarily blinded when a suspected offender threw a noxious liquid in their eyes yesterday. The men, who have not yet been named, were treated in hospital following the attack in Shirley, Southampton. A Hampshire Police spokesman said that they had apparently disturbed a man committing a crime.

## Risk of abortion charge

A Nottinghamshire obstetrician who removed a woman's womb despite believing she was pregnant may be charged with illegally procuring a miscarriage. The woman, reported not to have known she was pregnant, had been diagnosed as having endometriosis, causing growths in the womb, and it was decided she should have a hysterectomy.

## Russian lecturer wins crossword contest

By JOHN GRANT  
CROSSWORD EDITOR

The 23rd annual Times Crossword Championship, held in association with Knockando whisky, was won yesterday by Dr Peter Mayo, senior lecturer in Russian and Slavonic studies at Sheffield University. He solved four puzzles in an average time of 11½ minutes each.

To win this year's championship Dr Mayo, 49, had the qualifying puzzle sent to him in Minsk, where he was working on a research project. Michael Trollope 46, a chemical engineer from Worthing, West Sussex, came second, averaging just under 12 minutes per puzzle.

John Henderson, a lecturer in psychology at City of Westminster College, from Finchley, north London, and Michael Macdonald-Cooper, 51, a retired educational administrator from Kilmuir,



Mayo: competed in Minsk

Tayside, died third. Other prizewinners were: Group Captain Peter Hutchings, a retired officer from Writington, Avon; David Vine, market research consultant; John Harding, a pensions administrator from Farnham, Avon; and T A Owen, a development consultant from Borth, Dyfed.

## MAKING KNOCKANDO IS A BIT LIKE DOING THE TIMES CROSSWORD. IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY HOW LONG IT'S GOING TO TAKE.

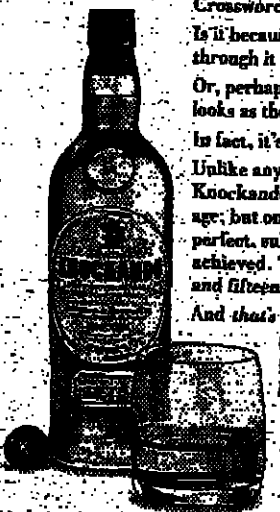
How does a fine, single malt like Knockando come to be associated with The Times Crossword?

Is it because, like the Crossword, some get through it quicker than others? Or, perhaps, because the word Knockando looks as though it should be followed by "ing"?

In fact, it's none of these.

Unlike any other single malt whisky, Knockando is bottled not as a pre-determined age, but only when taste confirms that its perfect, subtly complex balance has been achieved. This can be anytime between twelve and fifteen years.

And that's why we felt it was the perfect partner for The Times Crossword. Because it's impossible to say how long it's going to take.



**KNOCKANDO**  
THE TIMES CROSSWORD CHAMPIONSHIP 1993

"WILL NIGEL BE CAUGHT SHORT?"

TELETEXT WILL TELL YOU

CHESS CH4 P.490



## Asian youths warn of race wars on London's streets

By Edward Gorman

ASIAN youths in the East End of London spoke yesterday of "race wars" on the streets of the capital as police charged nine people with riot after racial clashes at the weekend. Two petrol bombs were thrown at police premises in Stepney on Saturday and yesterday four arrests were made after further minor clashes between rival demonstrators.

Police said seven adults and two juveniles would appear before Thames magistrates today charged with offences in connection with the riot on Friday night. The weekend violence was triggered by an unprovoked attack by a white gang last week on Quaddus Ali, 17, who remains critical but stable in the Royal London Hospital, Whitechapel.

The charges came as Asians in Stepney spoke of further violence to come unless police did more to protect them from white neo-Nazi style gangs.

One young man whose family came to Britain from Bangladesh put it bluntly. "This is going to be good and proper — it'll probably be a war, it's as simple as that."

Richard Chartres, Bishop of Stepney, described community relations in the mainly

### Police must do more to protect the Asian community in east London from neo-Nazi gangs, say young Asians

Asian Spinalfields area as at their worst for nearly 20 years. Bishop Chartres said that the severe beating meted out to Quaddus Ali, near Brick Lane, was the last straw for the Bengali community in Stepney.

He added that the very serious condition of Quaddus was acting as a "constant reminder", which could quickly inflame the situation.

On Saturday night, skin-heads rampaged through Brick Lane, smashing windows of Asian-owned premises and shouting racial slogans. Police said a man was arrested after two petrol bombs were thrown at a police station. The violence continued yesterday. Four arrests were made after members of the British National Party (BNP) clashed with Anti-Nazi League and Socialist Workers' party protesters, also in Brick Lane.

Young Asians in the area are directing most of their anger not at the BNP, some of whose members they suspect

were involved in the beating of Quaddus, but at the police who, they claim, are not doing enough to protect them.

Terab Ali, 23, who works in Brick Lane, said the tension and violence would continue until police took effective action. "The police are just taking the piss," he said. "It's unbelievable. They [BNP members] walked up Brick Lane with the police. The police are letting the BNP do what they want."

A friend of Quaddus who did not want to be named but who works for Tower Hamlets council claimed that five skin-heads carrying baseball bats had been apprehended by officers on Saturday night and released after being disarmed. If they had been Asian, they would have been arrested and charged, he said. "We've got a system in this country that doesn't work, a system that works against people who are oppressed."

Bishop Chartres was planning to meet senior officers to discuss the problems last night. "It is extremely important that the police can give some assurances to the community that they are active in protecting them," he said.

A Scotland Yard spokeswoman denied allegations that officers were not taking seriously complaints of racial violence by Asians in east London. She said action was being taken as and when incidents arose and that all complaints of racial violence were routinely investigated.

The parents of Stephen Lawrence, who was stabbed to death by white youths as he waited for a bus stop in April, are to hold a vigil today at the bus stop where he died in Eltham, southeast London, to mark what would have been his nineteenth birthday.



A protester is restrained in Stepney yesterday

## Wait hits cancer victims' hope

By Jeremy Laurence, Health Services Correspondent

HALF the cancer centres in Britain have unacceptably long waiting lists for radiotherapy treatment, which reduces patients' chances of being cured, according to a survey by the Joint Council for Clinical Oncology.

The survey found that patients at 14 centres who were diagnosed with cancer had to wait four weeks or longer before beginning radiotherapy. In some, the delay was seven or eight weeks.

Dr Jill Bullimore, chairman of the council, said delaying treatment once cancer was diagnosed was traumatic for patients and reduced the likelihood of success. "These waiting times are unacceptable."

The earlier you start treatment the more chance you have of being cured," she said.

New guidelines issued today by the council, set up by the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Radiologists, set target waiting times ranging from 24 hours for urgent radiotherapy to two weeks for radical radiotherapy involving complex treatment.

"Patients told they have cancer don't understand what is going to happen and they are frightened," said Dr Bullimore. "It is appalling for them, and we must keep the waiting time for treatment as short as possible."

Only 29 of the 56 cancer centres in the country replied

to the survey, but Dr Bullimore said waiting times in the rest could be even worse. "In the past, we have found the centres that don't reply are the smaller ones which have fewer staff and are harder pressed," she said.

Shortages of staff and radiotherapy machines, old equipment and poor management were possible reasons for the delays. "We expect a lot of angry centres will complain about our guidelines, saying they are already doing their best, but our intention is to help them negotiate with health authorities. Most doctors are doing their best and some are working under an impossible workload."

## Book leaps off page into print

By Alexandra Frean, Media Correspondent

THE book is a guaranteed bestseller, even though it has yet to be written. Virgin Publishing, which commissioned *How To Get Ahead In Business*, has already received record orders from WH Smith and Book Club Associates.

The book, which attempts to distill the cream of 20th century business philosophy, will have an initial print run of 30,000 copies — six times the average for a hardback first edition on business.

Not bad for a book that came about by accident. It was originally planned only as a prop for press advertisements promoting Virgin Atlantic's business-class service, in

which leading businessmen were featured reading it. "We invented the title for the advertisements and suddenly realised that no such text existed," said Paul Simons, chairman of the Simons Palmer Advertising Agency, who developed the idea with Robert Shreeve, managing director of Virgin Publishing.

"We thought there must be an enormous untapped market for a collection of the thoughts of today's leading business minds. It is extraordinary that nobody has thought of this before."

Virgin Publishing commissioned Thomas Cannon, a professor at Manchester Business School, to edit it. It hopes

to have the book on sale by mid-October, less than seven weeks after it was conceived. "It will contain contributions from businessmen such as Lee Iacocca, the man who rescued America's fading Chrysler Corporation, Aldo Morita, the creator of the Sony Walkman and Sir John Harvey-Jones, a former head of ICI."

The "book of the advert" theme has already proved a winning formula. *Fly Fishing* by J.R. Hartley, the fictional book in a *Yellow Pages* advertisement, sold 100,000 copies and spawned a sequel, *J.R. Hartley Casts Again*. The five-year saga of the Gold Blend coffee couple became a paperback, *Love Ever Gold*.



Fontaine: "My agent sent off some pictures"

## Vampire offers a taste of Hollywood

A TEENAGE British actress was puzzled as well as thrilled when she heard she had won a part in a film which will feature three of Hollywood's top leading men, Tom Cruise, Brad Pitt and River Phoenix.

Anouk Fontaine, 18, who has made only one film, has a part in *Interview with the Vampire*, which will be directed at Pinewood by Neil Jordan. But her role is largely a mystery to her.

"I know I'll be playing Brad Pitt's dead wife, but what her name is or how many scenes I will play I don't know," she said yesterday at her home in Barnes,

west London. "I don't really know why they have chosen me. My agent sent off some pictures, but I didn't do any tests and I know they were looking in both America and Europe."

"Of the three men, I suppose I like Brad Pitt best, though my favourite films are European. My 15-year-old sister Chloe is longing to meet Brad."

Miss Fontaine, whose father is French, studied at the Arts Education School in Chiswick, west London. She toured with the Young Vic theatre company, including a trip to America with the musical *Gyps and Dolls*.



The Princess Royal and Commander Laurence at horse trials on Saturday

## Baby rumour princess runs busy schedule

By Bill Frost

THE Princess Royal is keeping to her busy schedule of public engagements, amid rumours that she is expecting her first child by Commander Tim Laurence early next year.

She is due to carry out 17 public duties this week, including visits to Lincolnshire, Glasgow, Strathclyde, Northumberland and Hereford and Worcester. Her first engagement is a fundraising race at the Southampton Boat Show today.

Her office has issued a list of engagements to the end of January when, if the latest report is accurate, she would be about eight months pregnant. It is thought she is also planning to attend the Winter Olympics in Norway in February. The palace said: "As of now she has no plans to cancel any engagements, indeed the evidence is to the contrary. She has added about ten engagements in the last week."

The princess's brother-in-law told *The Times*: "All I can say is, if true, this is great news." Jonathan Laurence added: "I cannot tell you anything else as I simply don't know at this stage."

*The People* newspaper devoted five pages to a "world exclusive" claiming that the

princess and her husband of ten months were expecting a baby in the new year. It quoted a friend of the 43-year-old princess as confiding: "It's been kept a closely guarded secret. But I have been told she is three months pregnant."

A "well-known" but anonymous peer who is "friendly with the couple" was quoted as saying that the princess was "absolutely thrilled".

Royal officials maintained the line they have held throughout a week of rumours of a pregnancy. Buckingham Palace said: "We are not prepared to discuss possible pregnancies until the moment comes when the couple involved are ready to announce it."

*The People* claimed that news of the pregnancy had been restricted to a close circle of family and friends because of the Princess Royal's age and the increased likelihood of complications. The paper said a public announcement was being held back until doctors had given the medical all-clear.

The princess has two children, Peter and Zara, from her first marriage to Captain Mark Phillips, which ended in divorce last year.

## Age has few hazards

By Dr Thomas Stuttford

THE Princess Royal has already had two children, but a 12-year gap between the birth of Zara and her reported pregnancy means she would be treated very much as a woman having her first baby in her 40s.

When Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, had her children at a similar age 50 years ago, the hazards were rather exaggerated. Since then there have been many improvements in the ways in which older women can be helped. Most have natural deliveries, or ones where the only assistance needed is some help with the forceps. In older women there is inevitably a greater

incidence of caesarean section and episiotomy. Most of the other complications of child-bearing are also slightly more common, including miscarriage, premature delivery and unacceptable increase in blood pressure. The possibility of blood pressure problems means more rest than would be recommended for younger patients is advised.

Perhaps the greatest disadvantage of having a baby later in life is the increased chance of bearing a child with a congenital abnormality. Many of these troubles can be detected at a comparatively early stage of the pregnancy by amniocentesis, blood testing and ultrasound.

## Daughter of victims now lives in fear

By Nicholas Watt

A WOMAN whose elderly parents were murdered in July says she fears for her own life and is scared to go out as police hunt the killer.

Cheryl Tooz, 33, whose parents, Harry and Megan Tooz, were killed at their isolated farmhouse at Llanharry, Mid Glamorgan, on July 26, says she can barely relax and cannot sleep without tranquilisers.

"My parents' death has upset me so much that my own life doesn't seem important to me. But, yes, I am scared, I do feel when I go out as if someone is after me."

Harry Tooz, a 66-year-old farmer and Megan, who was 67, were shot at point blank range at their seven-acre fruit farm in an apparently motiveless murder. Ms Tooz has been trying to think of potential suspects.

"It is totally baffling to me," she said in an interview with the *Western Mail*. "I was very close to my parents and have told the police everything I can think of to help them."

She thinks that an empty cup and saucer found in her parents' home after the murder is an important clue to the identity of the killer. "That was their best china," she said. "That would only have been brought out for someone they considered to be special."

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What Car, June '93.

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## THE TIMES WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP



# Desperate Short hurls army into assault on king

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

ONCE again in *The Times* World Chess Championship, Nigel Short has been beaten by his handling of the clock. In Saturday's third game Short recovered from a bad opening, another Ruy Lopez in which the champion, Garry Kasparov, had achieved an excellent position. At one stage, Short told *The Times*, "I was just busted. I didn't see any defence."

With immense courage Short hurled his army at Kasparov's king, and, with both players short of time, fought back to have a draw within his grasp.

On his 31st move, however, Short failed to play a vital check with his queen which would have disorganised Kasparov's position. When the smoke and dust of battle had cleared and they had survived the time control at move 40, it became apparent that only Kasparov, with the advantage of a knight against two pawns, could hope for victory.

Paying tribute to the chances Short has missed through clock trouble, Kasparov said: "The score is two and a half to a half in my favour, but it could easily have been the other way round."

With this move Short introduces the possibility of the Marshall Gambit, which Kasparov sidesteps with his next move. It would occur after 8 c3 d5 9 exd5 Nxd5 10 Nxe5 Nxe5 11 Rxe5 when Black has numerous open lines for his sacrificed pawn.

8 a4 9 c3 10 Nxd2

11 c3 12 Be2 13 Nf4 14 Qb3 15 Nf5 16 Nf4 17 Nf5 18 Nf4 19 Nf5 20 Nf4 21 Nf5 22 Nf4 23 Nf5 24 Nf4 25 Nf5 26 Nf4 27 Nf5 28 Nf4 29 Nf5 30 Nf4 31 Nf5 32 Nf4 33 Nf5 34 Nf4 35 Nf5 36 Nf4 37 Nf5 38 Nf4 39 Nf5 40 Nf4 41 Nf5 42 Nf4 43 Nf5 44 Nf4 45 Nf5 46 Nf4 47 Nf5 48 Nf4 49 Nf5 50 Nf4 51 Nf5 52 Nf4 53 Nf5 54 Nf4 55 Nf5 56 Nf4 57 Nf5 58 Nf4 59 Nf5 60 Nf4

Short: "I underestimated this move. Now I cannot really stop the White knight coming to g6 from where it will trade off my valuable defensive bishop on f8. My problem is that Kasparov's bishop on a2 pins my f7-pawn, so the White knight is immune on g6."

Short: "This is an excellent move. It bolsters up Kasparov's centre and places a granite block in the path of my queen's bishop."

Short: "Kasparov has outplayed me strategically. I must fling all my pieces into a do or die attack against his king."

Kasparov: "If he doesn't break through he will lose. In this position I would have played 21 ... Nf4 planning ... b5 and ... h4 and then ... Qe5-g5."

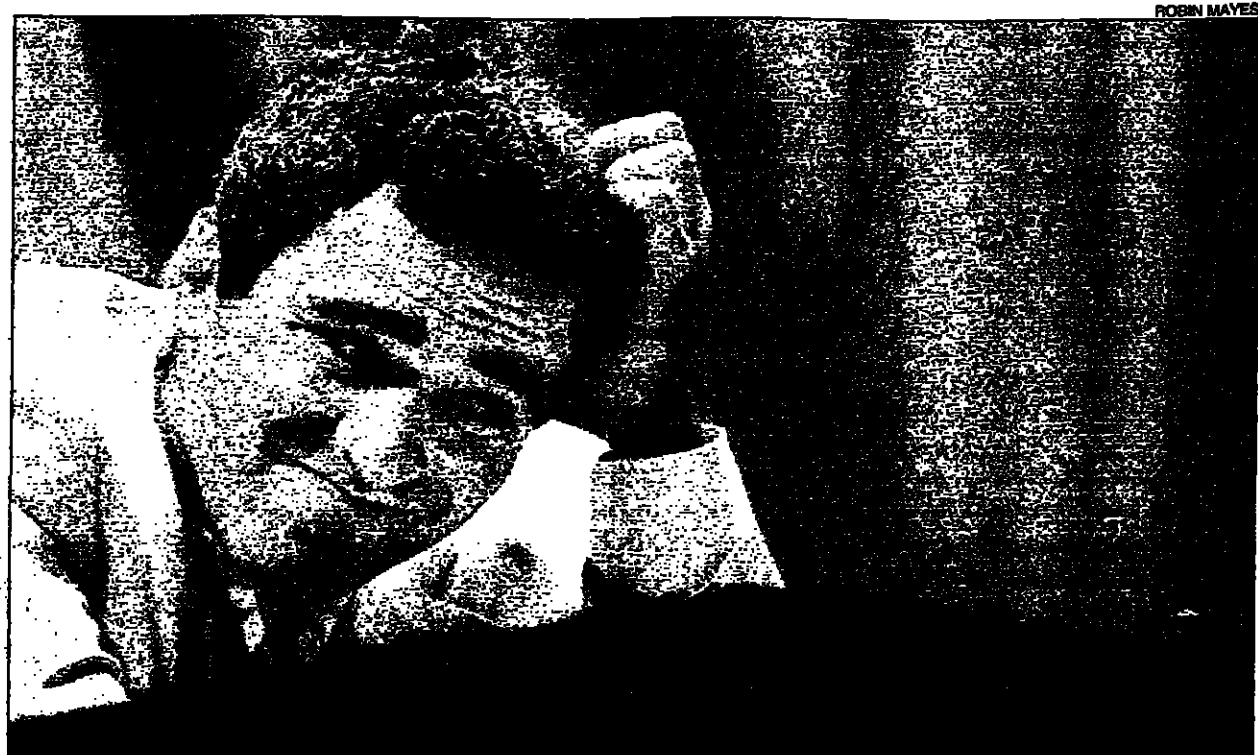
Kasparov: "I keep control of the a-file but the rook also operates prophylactically along the second rank."

22 ... Rf6 23 ... Rf6 24 ... Rf6 25 ... Rf6 26 ... Rf6 27 ... Rf6 28 ... Rf6 29 ... Rf6 30 ... Rf6 31 ... Rf6 32 ... Rf6 33 ... Rf6 34 ... Rf6 35 ... Rf6 36 ... Rf6 37 ... Rf6 38 ... Rf6 39 ... Rf6 40 ... Rf6 41 ... Rf6 42 ... Rf6 43 ... Rf6 44 ... Rf6 45 ... Rf6 46 ... Rf6 47 ... Rf6 48 ... Rf6 49 ... Rf6 50 ... Rf6 51 ... Rf6 52 ... Rf6 53 ... Rf6 54 ... Rf6 55 ... Rf6 56 ... Rf6 57 ... Rf6 58 ... Rf6 59 ... Rf6 60 ... Rf6

strung move, even though it seems to wreck the pawn constellation around Kasparov's king. In contrast, the apparently tempting 26 f4 would have been wrong since I could then sacrifice to make a draw: 26 f4 Nxe2 27 Rxe2 Rxe2 28 Kxe2 Qh3+ 29 Kg1 Bg4 30 Qd2 Bf3 31 fxe5 Qe4+ 32 Kf1 (not 32 Kf2 Qg2 checkmate) 32 ... Qh3+ 33 Kf1 Qe4+ with a draw by perpetual check."

Short: "I am ready to sacrifice my knight on h5 in order to smash into White's position via f3."

Short: "This thrust with the bishop looks decisive. Surprisingly, though, this move is



Garry Kasparov ponders a difficult end-game position during Saturday's third game against Nigel Short

a mistake. Kasparov should simply have played 27 Nd4 Nf4 28 Nf5 when my position is smashed."

Short: "We are in a desperate time scramble. This is an excellent resource to strip away the pawn protection around Kasparov's king. Kasparov had overlooked it."

Short: "In the desperate time scramble to reach move 40 before our clock flags fell Kasparov had overlooked this move. He had probably been planning to play in response 31 Qxg4 but then 31 ... Rd1 is a snap checkmate."

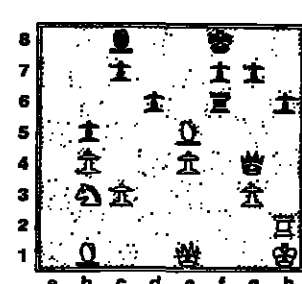
28 ... Rg3 29 ... Rg3 30 ... Rg3

31 ... Qe1 (see diagram)

Short: "I had to make ten moves before the time control at move 40 and I only had just over a minute left. After his mistake on move 27 Kasparov is no longer in control of the position, it is a panic-stricken confused mess for both players. My next move, an auto-

matic recapture, just to save time, is a dreadful mistake. If my enemy, the clock, had not been ticking mercilessly away, I would have found the in-between move 31 ... Qe3+!

After that I have very good chances to draw. It would have been difficult for Kasparov to find the right moves in time trouble."



31 ... Qe1  
32 Nd2  
33 Bc2  
34 Kg1  
35 Nf1  
36 Qc3  
37 Rd2  
38 Rxc6

Kasparov has survived and now has the advantage.

39 Qc5  
40 Bxc5  
41 Nd2  
42 Kf2  
43 Bb3

Kasparov: "This endgame is actually very hard to win. Black can try to construct a fortress with his pawns. However, this is not the right way to go about it."

44 Nf3  
45 Qd4  
46 Bxc4  
47 Be2  
48 Bd1  
49 Bc4  
50 Ne1  
51 Bc3  
52 Nd3  
53 Bb4  
54 Bc5  
55 Bxc6  
56 Nxc6  
57 Kd3  
58 Kc4  
59 g4

## We're Lands' End Direct Merchants, from America.

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"We accept any return, for any reason, at any time. Our products are guaranteed. No fine print. No arguments. We mean exactly what we say. In one word, GUARANTEED." (And of course our guarantee is in addition to your statutory rights.)

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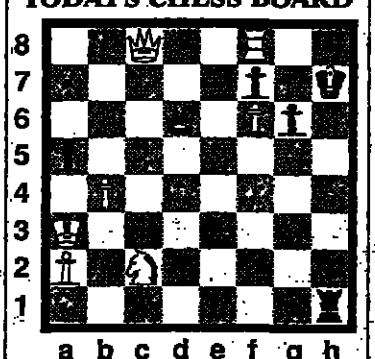
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On your Checkmate Card there are 20 letter-number combinations - g6, h2, a5 and so on. These represent the positions on a standard chess board.

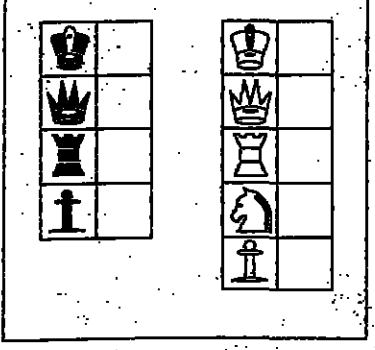
Compare the positions on your Checkmate Card against those on Today's Chess Board (right). If a combination on your card matches a chess piece on the Checkmate Chess Board mark off that piece in the Checkmate Table.

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**TODAY'S WINNER** will be announced in *The Times* tomorrow. There were no winners on Saturday.

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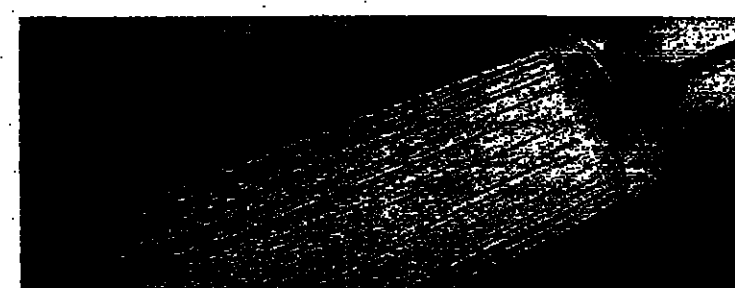
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Times investigation finds some language schools are a passport to work for job-hungry foreigners

# Visa factories offer short cut to job market

Fees of only 70p an hour are being charged by bogus schools. Kate Alderson and Jack Crossley investigate

DEMANDS are being made for government regulation of schools teaching English to foreign students amid increasing concern that many are little more than "visa factories".

Fees as low as 70p an hour enable foreign students to enrol, obtain a visa and then get a job instead of attending classes. The Association of Recognised English Language Services estimates that a realistic price is nearer £200 a week. Demands for an investigation come from established schools, who fear their reputation may be destroyed by bogus operators.

British Tourist Authority figures show that in 1990 the industry had an annual turnover of £500 million. More than 1,000 language schools operate throughout the country but only a quarter are recognised by the British Council as providing a decent standard of teaching.

An estimated 600,000 foreigners enter the country as students every year and in London students are being offered three months' full-time teaching for as little as £160.

That low price attracts "students" who are less interested in learning English than in gaining a student visa, which opens up the opportunity to work part-time and remain in the country as long as they are registered on a course.

It also confuses genuine students, who are attracted by low prices only to find the quality of teaching inadequate. Some schools do not

**WARNING!**  
TO  
FOREIGN  
STUDENTS  
IN  
LONDON  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE COURSES

Part of the warning sign used by recognised schools

have qualified teachers, proper classrooms or a genuine course of study.

Enquiries by *The Times* disclosed that schools throughout inner London are offering year-long English courses, 15 hours a week, for as little as £500 — or under 70p an hour.

Jason West, of the Leicester Square School of English, emphasised the threat from cheap "courses" to legitimate schools. He recently accepted, free of charge, three students who had lost their fees after a school closed down: "I have people who come in here every

day. Their first and only word is 'visa'. They have no interest in the course and I ask them to leave. In theory you could be registered with a course for ten years and just keep on working and residing here.

"The reputation of 'visa factories' and the fast-buck merchants taints those of us who provide a decent education." I am obliged to inform the Home Office about students who do not attend.

Simon Little, principal of the Callan School, Oxford Street, London, said: "People turn up and just ask about the visa. Some would register, get the visa and then cancel the course. The low fees some schools charge are scandalous, but the government does nothing."

The Association of Recognised English Language Services (ARELS) operates as a self-regulatory body whose 200 members all have British Council approval. It has spearheaded the call for regulation and is currently discussing seven different registration schemes with government officials. It estimates that a full-time English course could cost up to £200 a week.

Oksana Higglesden, for ARELS, said: "The only external quality control in the industry is provided by the British Council and the further requirements of ARELS. There is no compulsion for language schools to join those schemes and the majority do not. We want compulsory registration to eliminate the worst schools."



Pedro Larriba Bustamante and Karnele Ereno, who found their school locked

## Students lose in price war

Genuine firms are going bust, write Jack Crossley and Kate Alderson

Cut-price language schools operating as "visa factories" are forcing genuine schools to reduce fees to dangerous levels. Innocent students suffer when price slashing goes wrong and a school has to close. The Lexicon School of English in Kensington was one that was forced to shut its doors and scores of students lost their money.

David Coburn, a director and company secretary of the school, was questioned by police about allegations that fees had been accepted after the company was struck off. Police accepted that Mr Coburn had been running a good school which suffered from low fees and bad management, and no further action was taken.

Mr Coburn is a member and former treasurer of the Tory Bow Group. His company, Lexicon School of English, was struck off on March 2 for failing to file accounts and was dissolved on March 9.

Karnele Ereno, 24, and Pedro Larriba Bustamante, 22, both Spanish, paid fees after that date. They said: "We turned up one day to find the school locked up and a notice on the door saying that because of problems with the landlord the premises were closed."

They were originally attracted to Lexicon by a special offer advertised on the door: £160 for three months. Three weeks into their course, the school closed. A man they had not seen before told them there was a temporary problem and the school would reopen.

"The school never reopened and we were left with nothing," Ms Ereno said. "We were shocked and disappointed. We had saved hard for a long time before coming to England."

Mr Larriba said he was surprised there was no law to

help students get their money back. "There seems to be nothing we can do," he said.

Mr Coburn's lawyer, Andrew Visintin, said: "Yes, the company was struck off and the two directors continued to trade and that, they would say, was a genuine mistake. My view is that these two gentlemen were working long hours to try to keep the business going in difficult economic conditions and unfortunately overlooked the regular day-to-day management. I don't think there is any suggestion of them walking away with sums of money."

When questioned about whether £160 was a fee low enough to attract students more interested in visas than lessons, Mr Visintin said: "I think Mr Coburn's comment on that would be that there is competition out there and if someone is undercutting you and you are not getting business the only way you are going to attract new business is to cut your fees."

Mr Visintin said he knew nothing about students failing to attend classes. "My understanding was that most students did attend."

After Lexicon's collapse, other language schools offered the students free courses. Adam Bass, publisher of *Foreign Student* magazine, organised free places for many of them. "I don't think Lexicon set out to operate a visa factory, but fees as low as theirs certainly attract students whose main concern is getting a visa."

Stephen Airey, registrar of the London Academy of Computing and Electronics, said: "We have had to cut our fees by 25 to 30 per cent. Our English course is down from £900 to £650 and it is impossible to go below that and survive."

## 'There is no problem'

By KATE ALDERSON

VISITS to many schools by *The Times* demonstrated the ease with which students can enrol in low-cost courses. The school tells the Home Office that the applicant is studying full-time and a visa is issued enabling the student to obtain Form OSS1, which allows 20 hours' part-time work a week.

We asked the Star College in Paddington about its policies. It is run by a Mr Adel, who offers a year's course for £500. Asked how we could get a visa for a foreign friend, he said: "There is no problem with the visa. If you pay now, I will send her a letter saying she is registered with us and then she can take it to the British embassy as proof of registration."

What if she did not want to attend every day because she would be looking for work? "We can cover for her for a few days a week if the Home Office checks, but she would have to turn up a few times a week. We have to be careful."

He said he did have students who never attended the college: "We cover for them if the Home Office asks because we understand their circumstances." Two days later,

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Students can now be arranged

Mr Adel was recontacted and asked how he could offer courses at such a cheap price. He said: "I have no overheads and no expenses. I run this place on my own — with the teachers. I own the building, run the school myself, I have no secretary."

He denied he had said he would cover for students who did not attend, but admitted he would not tell the Home Office that they did. He said: "It is not my problem. Some of the students enrol, get their visas and then disappear. The classroom is there, the teacher is there. I can do nothing about it."

## Paying their way

By JACK CROSSLEY

ALEX O'Connor, a journalist, told *The London College of English* in central London that he was a Nigerian whose UK visa was running out. He spoke to a Mr Kusi and said he wanted to get his visa extended by signing on for an English course.

Mr Kusi said: "It is going to be difficult. Extremely difficult." There was Home Office reluctance to grant visas for English language courses to students from English-speaking countries. Mr Kusi suggested he might stand a better chance if he took a "business course" instead.

O'Connor: "How much do you charge?" Kusi: "For one year £950, but if you pay £535 then we give you a letter for the Home Office and you apply to get a stay."

"If you pay us £535 you can start the course and we give you the letter to be sent to the Home Office. If you are not



successful I will have to take £135 out of it. Are you coming in to pay some money? If you pay us £535 we'll give you the letter straight away. When does your visa expire?"

O'Connor: "December." Kusi: "OK. You can register and ask for an extension."

The Home Office said that anyone wanting to change their visa status would normally be told to return home and reapply. "We look at each case on an individual basis, but it is very, very difficult to change conditions. There would have to be very special circumstances."

## Leaflet full of promise

By KATE ALDERSON AND JACK CROSSLEY

AFTER being handed its leaflet in Oxford Street, we chose to look at the Princes School in Tottenham Court Road, central London. It charges £549 a year and its brochure says: "The college is recognised by the government and the Home Office as providers of the necessary documentation for students to obtain visas or to extend them."

During our first telephone conversation with the college, we asked about gaining a visa for a foreign friend who might be prevented from attending classes every day because of work commitments.

"That's all right," we were told. "She can ring up and say, 'I'm not able to come'. As long as we know."

Later, we spoke to the school's principal, Bernadette Andruk, who said our first call had been answered by a trainee secretary. "You spoke to the wrong person. She should have referred you to me," Miss Andruk said.

"We don't sell visas here. We sell courses. We are concerned that the student comes here every day for three hours, five days a week. Students not turning up is not known to me."

She agreed that the college was not

**PRINCES COLLEGE**  
School of English



recognised by the British Council, but said that it would be applying for recognition when the college had been in existence for the necessary two years.

The Home Office said it kept lists of good and bad language schools, but they were not available to the public. "They are kept for immigration purposes," a spokesman said. "We do not look specifically at the schools, but at the people who are abusing the system."

The Home Office will not say which schools it inspects.

## Fears grow of health risks in diesel fuel

By NICK NUTTALL AND KEVIN EASON

FEARS that diesel cars could trigger asthma attacks, heart disease and cancer in thousands of people are threatening sales worth about £23 billion to Britain's motor industry.

Government-commissioned reports, due for release later this year, are expected to warn ministers that diesel is far less environment-friendly than the public has been led to believe.

Sales of diesel cars have soared to 20 per cent of new car registrations, mainly on the back of advertising which claims that diesel is "greener" than petrol, even in cars equipped with catalytic converters, which soak up 90 per cent of noxious engine gases.

Sales of more than 236,000 diesel cars this year have already outstripped the 200,000 in the whole of 1992.

Scientists compiling evidence on air quality in towns and cities for the environment department will report that emissions of particulates — microscopic pieces of soot — are rising rapidly. Particulates are being increasingly linked to asthma and a range of other

respiratory diseases and skin disorders.

Roy Harrison, professor of environmental health at Birmingham University and chairman of the Quality of Urban Air Review Group, said yesterday: "People felt before catalytic converters that the argument was in favour of diesel. Now that all new petrol cars are fitted with catalytic converters, the comparison is looking very different."

Emissions of particulates and oxides of nitrogen from diesel are 150 per cent higher than from a petrol-engined vehicle, according to recent studies. Diesel also pumps out significantly higher levels of sulphur dioxide, the gas responsible for acid rain.

The rapid growth of diesel car sales has alerted teams of medical experts trying to quantify the damage diesels could be doing to public health in some of Britain's most congested towns and cities.

Robert Davies, professor of respiratory medicine at St Bartholomew's Hospital in London, said: "Cities with higher levels of particulates of

less than 10 microns have more cases of early death, lung disease and also cardiovascular problems. There is also a link with people admitted to hospital with asthma."

Scientists were at pains to point out yesterday that the evidence is not conclusive, although concern is great enough for officials at both the environment and health departments to launch investigations.

Professor James Randle, of the automotive engineering centre at Birmingham University, said concerns over sulphur dioxide emissions could be tackled by cleaning up fuel at the refinery.

Professor Randle, who has been modelling emissions from 17 types of cars, doubted if NOX emissions could be solved as easily and warned that manufacturers would have to develop a more sophisticated catalytic converter to reduce the amount of fuel burnt.

Company fleet managers are flocking to diesel to make average fuel savings of about £400 a year per car.



The Great Globe at Swanage, by Graham Sutherland, could fetch £15,000 next month

## Golden age is going, going

By JOHN SHAW

THE late Graham Sutherland's first commercial commission is among a collection of long-hidden pictures being sold by BP at auction next month. The company is disposing of more than 200 paintings, some of which became part of the urban landscape on poster hoardings across the country between the wars.

They are expected to make about £80,000 at the New Bond Street salerooms of the auctioneers Phillips in London on October 19. A BP Oil spokesman said: "A lot of this material is very historic. It has been locked away in cellars and vaults for years."

Sutherland, who died in 1980, began painting in 1931. The following year, he was

asked to contribute to Shell's highly successful "Everywhere You Go" advertising campaign, which ran during the thirties.

The company had an enlightened attitude towards advertising and commissioned a number of talented young artists to illustrate the series. It popularised motoring as a means of seeing Britain.

Sutherland, then 29, submitted a gouache study of The Great Globe at Swanage. The original will be one of the sale's highlights and is expected to fetch £10,000-£15,000.

The BP collection was started with the merger of Shell Mex and BP in 1932. The varied group of pictures was divided equally between the two companies when they became separate entities again in 1975.

## Survivor plans shipwreck dive

By A STAFF REPORTER

A SURVIVOR of a shipping disaster 14 years ago intends to dive to the newly discovered wreck to honour his 13 colleagues who died.

Mark Fook was 18 and the youngest member of the *Pool Fisher* crew when the 1025-ton ship sank off the Isle of Wight. Mr Fook, of Romford, Essex, began diving four years ago. He said he had always wanted to dive on the *Pool Fisher* to come to terms with what had happened and to lay a wreath for bereaved relatives.

"I have never forgotten that night, but I want to square the past and show my respects," he said. "I want to put the memory to rest. It was sheer luck, and the fact that I was young and fit, that I survived."

"It will be eerie and moving when I see the ship again. But I think I can handle it."

A force-nine gale was blowing when the *Pool Fisher* went down in November 1979 in 130ft. Water seeping through old wooden hatches into the cargo of potash was blamed.

Mr Fook was trapped under a lifeboat on the deck when his clothing ripped and he shot to the surface "like a Polaris

missile". He and four others clung to a hatch for more than four hours. Three of the men slipped off as the cold took its toll. Mr Fook and Donald Crane, then 21, survived. Mr Crane now lives in Canada.

Mr Fook, 32, and married with two young children, was given £750 by the shipping company for his ordeal and went back to sea three months later. He made two more trips before leaving the merchant navy. One of them was to crew the *Derbyshire*. While Mr Fook was waiting in Japan for it to arrive, a typhoon off Japan sank the ship with the loss of 44 lives.

The wreck of the *Pool Fisher* was found six miles south of the island by Martin Woodward, who works at the Bembridge Maritime Museum. "The location of the ship will not be divulged out of respect to those who died and are still inside it," he said. "This is an exceptional case — that is why I am helping."

Mr Fook, who is a steeplejack, said: "I hope to do the dive before Christmas at the latest. I want it out of the way as soon as possible."

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MEANS BUSINESS



## The Opposition is blind to reality, despite appalling levels of support in recent by-elections

# Labour leaders ignore southern discomfort

Disillusionment with the government among southern voters is especially bad news for Labour, writes Stephen Pollard

The South of England is the biggest and most important region in electoral geography, with 261 seats. It is a giant Tory safe seat, with the Conservatives getting 55 per cent of the vote in the 1992 election, the Liberals 23 per cent and Labour trailing badly on 21 per cent. That, in essence, is the reason why Labour keeps losing: it is simply not a national party.

Last year, the Fabian Society published *Southern Discomfort*, based on research into the attitudes of the so-called C1s and C2s (white collar and skilled manual groups) in the South. It showed that they saw Labour as an alien force, with nothing to offer upwardly mobile families such as their own. *More Southern Discomfort*, published today, shows that things are worse for Labour.

The party seems to take a perverse comfort in the self-fulfilling prophecy that the South is "alien territory". It behaves as if it can never win there, dismissing the attitudes of southern voters and so making itself still more unpopular in the one region in which it simply has to win, and leaving the Liberals as the only vehicle for anti-Conservative votes.

By writing off the appalling levels of support for Labour in the Newbury and Christchurch by-elections as "tactical voting", the party is blinding itself to reality. A uniform swing of 6.5 per cent from the Tories to the Liberals in the South would give them 53 seats and sweep aside all calculations based on the 1992 election results.

So what can Labour do to win support in the South? What do southern voters think about the big issues?

Last year, they voted for more Conservative government, looking forward, despite the recession, to material self-advancement. This year they hope to maintain the status

### The Times Essay

quo: "The main thing would be to keep my present standards — not to drop down." The government's behaviour since last April means that the Tories can no longer be trusted: "It was better the devil you know... but never again."

But awareness of the Tories' economic incompetence certainly does not mean accepting that Labour could do better. At best, some argue that if Labour had won "it couldn't be worse", but more usually they jeer: "God knows how we'd be."

They see Labour as an old-fashioned party, remote from their concerns and aspirations, wedded to high taxation and extravagant expenditure and not competent to run the country. Despite their distrust of the government, they cannot support Labour.

The Liberals, simply through being neither the government nor Opposition, are making hay. The voters of Newbury and Christchurch did not vote for the Liberals after a Damascene conversion; they voted against the government and Opposition. The Liberals are beginning to fill the need for a party which appears to be "of the people" rather than "of the politicians".

This disillusionment is especially bad news for Labour. Parties of the democratic left rely on a belief that government can make a difference for the better. If voters believe that no politician can be trusted and nothing can be done, then any vision Labour might have is undermined from the start. In the longer term, the loser is



Labour's Nigel Lickley campaigns at Christchurch with frontbencher Margaret Beckett

likely to be democracy itself. So Labour has to find a message to appeal to people who are, of course, against higher taxes in abstract — who isn't? — but are aware of the need to raise money from somewhere: "We want the Earth, don't we? I mean we're all sitting here moaning about the rundown of hospitals, but we don't want to pay for them to be improved."

Since politicians cannot be trusted, electors need to feel they are in control. They resent the lack of any expenditure breakdown such as appears on local authority poll tax and council tax bills.

Those key swing voters accept that it takes money to improve services. If one of the

reasons why voters are so hostile to tax increases is that they distrust politicians to spend the revenue wisely, then a proposal to earmark taxes by "ring fencing" for specific services may be a way to overcome distrust and show that Labour is once more on the side of the people. "I wouldn't mind paying more if I knew for sure that it was going on health" was a typical remark.

Neil Kinnock argued in July that the basic rate should be cut to 12p in the pound and that there should be a specially labelled "NHS tax" of 13p in the pound. David Blunkett has talked of a similar arrangement. Labour should examine ways of supplying each taxpayer with a breakdown, as

local authorities do, of where their money goes. Computerisation of the tax system makes possible many hitherto impractical ideas. Labour should be bold, and identify itself as the party that advocates "opening up" taxation.

The party must also re-examine its obsession with direct taxation and its knee-jerk hostility to indirect taxes. The supposedly unpopular, regressive effect of indirect taxes is often little more than myth — increased VAT on luxury goods was popular with some of the Fabian panellists — and the regressive effect of their incidence must always be set against the progressive effect of the revenue's use. But the main argu-

ment in favour of indirect taxes is that they give a feeling of control: "You can choose whether or not to spend."

Labour has also to come to terms with private provision of some services. The Fabian panellists, though in agreement that the state has a responsibility to see that pensions are provided, welcome private pensions. Indeed, they see them as being higher and more efficient than state pensions.

Schemes such as that put forward by Frank Field and Matthew Owen in their Fabian discussion paper, for the state to legislate for universal private pension provision, must be examined with an open mind. The point is, be pragmatic: look and see what will and what will not work.

Yet Labour could put forward the most persuasive tax and benefits policy ever at the next election and it would make little difference while it continued to be distrusted. Labour has to demonstrate that it is a modern party that shares people's aspirations and concerns.

Too few in the Labour party realise the asset they have in John Smith. He may not have Bryan Gould's instinctive appreciation of the way southern voters think, but his career and personality are just what is required. His career is a practical demonstration to aspirational southern voters that he understands those who want to "get on" in life, having risen by dint of his own hard work and intelligence. He is also patently reliable and trustworthy.

Mr Smith's proposed reforms to the role of the unions in the Labour party are a vital first step, but they are not enough. Labour should move to being a party of individual members alone, and should rid itself of the anachronism of corporate members.

Similarly, for Labour still to have, 75 years after it was drafted, "the common ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange" as its sole constitutional commitment is to demonstrate that it has not come to terms with the modern world. Such a doctrine fatally under-

mines any economic policies it puts forward, whether aimed at North, South, East or West. Rewriting Clause IV would be an opportunity to show that it had realised at last that the world has changed since 1918.

Labour, like every other democratic socialist party in the democratic world, should periodically restate, in language with modern resonance, what are its fundamental beliefs. The draft suggested by the Fabian committee, set up under Lord Archer of Sandwell to rewrite the constitution, would be a useful starting point:

*The Labour party is a democratic socialist party and believes in the equal enjoyment by everyone, irrespective of race, colour, sex, social origin, property, birth or status, of the rights and dignity which belong to all humankind.*

To that end, it works for the creation of equal opportunities to achieve a happy and fulfilling life; for the redistribution of wealth from the few to the many; for the achievement of a safe, peaceful and viable world; for the recognition of the rights of working people to organise in, and be represented by, trade unions; for a robust and pluralistic democratic process at all levels, in which all are empowered to participate; and for a community in which the liberty of each is the concern of all.

Labour's problem is that time is short. The next election is probably no more than two years away. That there should even be a doubt that John Smith's useful, but far from sufficient, reforms that the odds must be against the necessary measures being taken.

But with a leader who understands the need for change, and many members who do not want to see a fifth defeat in a row, there is at least a fighting chance.

The author is the research director of the Fabian Society. *More Southern Discomfort*, by Giles Radice, MP, and Stephen Pollard (The Fabian Society, 11 Dartmouth St, London SW1H 9BN; £3.50)

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Rape attack on visiting student, 17

The family of a 17-year-old exchange student is flying to Cardiff to comfort her after she was raped in a car park in the city.

She was taking a short cut to her lodgings after visiting friends late at night when she was grabbed from behind.

Police have not revealed her nationality. The attacker stole her money and passport.

#### Fire death

Leanne Graham, 5, died in a fire at her home in Ashford, Kent. Police praised Alan Clark 26, who ran into the house to save her sisters Natasha, 7, and Diane, 11.

#### Tough decision

Northumbria police will spend £200,000 on toughened windscreens for 250 vehicles following missile attacks that left an officer severely injured.

#### Murder arrest

Detectives have arrested a second man in connection with the murder of Mark White, 25, who was found dead on Blackpool beach last week.

#### Thin blue line

Police mounted special patrols to report any emergencies when vandals cut telephone connections to 1,700 homes in Byker, Tyne and Wear.

#### Brick attack

Two men used a brick to beat 82-year-old William Thompson, who is blind, before stealing £2 from him at Clayton, West Yorkshire.

#### Rice surprise

A delegation of Japanese businessmen bought all the rice in a shop at Brompton Regis, Somerset, because it was cheaper than rice on sale in Japan.

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Successes boost Norwegian prime minister as three women fight it out

## Brundtland on course for poll victory

FROM TONY SAMSTAG IN OSLO

NORWEGIANS began voting yesterday in a general election that is expected to return the ruling Labour Party to power and confirm Gro Harlem Brundtland as the prime minister.

The official election day is today, but about half the country's local authorities permit residents to vote on Sunday if they do not want to interrupt work the next day. Results are expected tonight.

The parliamentary elections are something of an historic first: the only serious candidates for prime minister, like the present incumbent, are all women. Mrs Brundtland's opponents are Kaci Kullmann Five, the Conservative opposition leader, and Anne Enger Lahnstein, of the agricultural Centre Party.

The standing of Mrs Brundtland, 54, and her Labour Party has been enhanced

by dramatic disclosures at the beginning of this month of Norway's spectacular diplomatic coup in brokering the peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians: subsequent public opinion polls registered a rise of four percentage points in just a week and the mood in the country has been jubilant.

The euphoria over the Middle East accord, reached after 18 months of secret meetings in Oslo with a small team of negotiators headed by Johan Joergen Holst, the foreign minister, has helped the government to sidestep any serious debate on the central issue in postwar Norwegian politics: its belated application for membership in the European Community.

At the last election in 1989, Mrs Brundtland's party won just over 34 per cent of the vote. Unable to form a govern-



Mrs Brundtland, hailed after her 1990 victory, is confident of her party triumphing again at the polls today.

ment, Labour deferred to a Conservative-led coalition which collapsed over issues of relations with the European Community the following year. This time Labour is showing 37 per cent, enough to form at least another minority government and possibly,

with luck, a coalition. Mrs Brundtland herself is basking in an unusual spell of public approval. A large majority of voters — whatever their party affiliations and even before the disclosures of the secret Oslo talks — have said they think she is the best of the candi-

dates for prime minister, because the economy has revived and it is felt her competitors lack experience. Even the business community, normally solidly Conservative, seems to have gone over to the Brundtland camp after hundreds of millions of dollars

worth of tax concessions and reductions for corporations. Assuming Mrs Brundtland stays in office, it will be the first time she would have won an election: three previous terms have been because of resignations or interim changes of government.

## Kohl gets in shape to see off his critics

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

HELMUT Kohl, the German chancellor, prepared yesterday to fight off-party critics and secure his leadership of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) before a crucial election year for Germany.

The CDU congress, meeting in Berlin for the next three days, is sure to confirm the chancellor as its prime candidate for the 1994 general elections, but his critics within the party have been gathering force. He is under fire from party liberals, such as Helmut Geisler, for making the CDU into a one-man show.

He is criticised by the Bavarian sister party, the Christian Social Union, for adhering slavishly to the Maastricht treaty and its restricted vision of Europe. There is also great unease in the rank and file about his meeting popularity — only 24 per cent of voters approve of the chancellor, while 52 per cent disapprove, according to a poll in *Der Spiegel* magazine today. That is his poorest showing since 1983.

The challenge to Herr Kohl will come only behind closed doors or in heavily encoded references during the congress speeches.

The reasoning is that, if the CDU loses a large number of votes in eastern Germany, it may have to form a grand coalition with the Social Democrats to stay in power. Herr Kohl, his critics say, would be an inappropriate leader for such a coalition, especially as he seems ready to fight the election on a nationalist platform.

The thrust of Herr Kohl's keynote speech today is thus likely to be a rejection of any link-up with the Social Democrats. That is intended not only to neutralise his party critics for a while, but also to soothe the fears of the small Free Democratic Party, his coalition partners.

The frictions with the Free Democrats, led by Klaus Kinkel, the foreign minister, are growing by the day. The latest example is the chancellor's stampeding through of his candidate for German head of state to replace President von Weizsäcker, who steps down next May.

The chancellor's candidate is Dr Steffen Heitmann, a right-wing minister from eastern Germany. His views of foreigners in Germany — "those who preach brotherly love clearly do not have their clothes stolen every day from the washing line" — do not suggest that he will be a social integrator in the manner of President von Weizsäcker.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### MPs meet in Pretoria to jettison white rule

Johannesburg: South Africa's parliament meets today to decide how best to wind itself up. A special two-week session has been called in Cape Town to enable the governing National Party, which has ruled the country since 1948, to create a transitional executive council comprising of about 20 delegations from the multi-party democracy talks outside Johannesburg (Ray Kennedy writes).

The first 20 candidates for the 400-seat constituent assembly elected next year have been announced, headed by Jay Naidoo, general secretary of the Congress of South African Trade Unions. They will fight under the ANC banner.

A woman was killed and several injured during a stampede in the wake of an address by Nelson Mandela, the ANC president, at an ANC rally in the Khayelisha township near Cape Town. Mr Mandela called for an end to racial attacks on white civilians. He told his audience of 60,000 that it was important to ensure that whites did not leave because their skills were vital.

### Port blocked

Tbilisi: Eduard Shevardnadze, the Georgian leader, who has taken over the interior ministry, was poised to declare a state of emergency as rebel forces blocked the Black Sea port of Poti in a bid to consolidate control over the west of the country, sources said. (AFP)

### Iranians held

Diyarbakir: Kurdish rebels holding seven Westerners in southeastern Turkey have abducted two Iranians and six Bangladeshis as new fighting took 19 more lives, an official said. The abductions came amid efforts to secure the Westerners' release. (AP)

### Haitian shot

Miami: Antoine Izemery, a supporter of Jean Bertrand Aristide, the ousted president, was shot dead by suspected police agents after being dragged from a church service in Port-au-Prince. The service was being held to mark the anniversary of one of Haiti's worst massacres.

### Cholera feared

Moscow: Officials in the Kazakhstan capital of Alma-Ata have closed the airport to flights from Asia and shut all markets and most food shops after 30 passengers on a flight from Pakistan were found to have cholera. (Reuters)

### Shuttle boost

Cape Canaveral: The American space shuttle Discovery has been launched successfully after a two-month delay. It will deploy a communications satellite. (Reuters)

## Gatt takes fizz out of treaty champagne

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN ALDEN BIESEN

THE European Community's looming crisis over France and the world trade talks is threatening to wreck a special celebration, which the Community had planned to mark the last ratification of the Maastricht treaty.

EC leaders admitted yesterday that a special summit tentatively scheduled for the end of October would be cancelled if no solution had been found to the deadlock between France and its partners over last year's deal on cutting farm subsidies.

The EC-US accord, known as the "Blair House agreement" after the building in Washington where it was signed, was supposed to have cleared the way for a final burst of negotiations to conclude a trade liberalising treaty between more than 100 countries of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

However, over the past few weeks France has forced the EC to "look again" at the agreement and touched off a potentially devastating split.

It would be difficult for Belgium to set up a summit if the EC was faced with a clash on the Gatt just beforehand, said Willy Claes, the Belgian foreign minister. He was speaking just after Douglas Hurd, the British foreign secretary, had given a warning that he did not see how the EC could "open bottles of champagne to celebrate Maastricht if the Community is in a paralysis about the Gatt."

France insists that the Blair House text is *unfair*, particularly to its high-exporting grain farmers, and demands a renegotiation.

France is openly supported by Ireland but has enjoyed hints of support from Spain, Belgium, Italy and from Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor. All the member governments now reluctantly accept that they have to think about fresh "interpretations" of Blair House in order to avoid an EC internal crisis and to avoid destroying global trade talks.

Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, and Mr Claes will discuss the political situation gathering over trade inside the EC with Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, when they see him in the margins of the Israel-PLO signing ceremony in Washington today.

Sir Leon Britan, EC trade commissioner, also meets his American counterparts in Washington today. An intensive series of meetings will take place all week in Brussels ahead of a key ministerial meeting in Brussels on September 20.

Peter Sutherland, Gatt's director-general who is waiting for the EC to sort itself out, said yesterday that the odds narrowly favoured a successful conclusion of the negotiation before the December 15 deadline. "But I must concede there's a rare risk we will fall if this dispute lingers on," he said. "We are on a knife edge."

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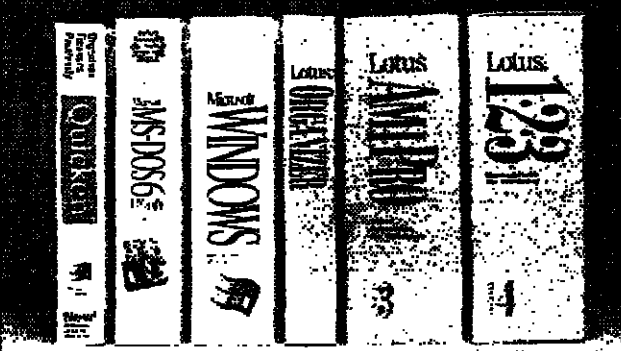
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## Banja Luka mutineers defy Karadzic and his general

FROM TIM JUDAH  
IN BELGRADE  
AND GEORGE BROCK  
IN ALDEN BIESEN

THE Bosnian Serb army mutiny in the northern town of Banja Luka, in protest against "war profiteers" who they say have grown rich while they have been at the front, took a turn for the worse yesterday. Rebel soldiers who seized control of the town on Friday said that they no longer recognised the Banja Luka military authorities and that their own "crisis headquarters" had assumed command. Last night, Radovan Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb political and military leaders, found themselves on the outskirts of Banja Luka and involved in humiliating negotiations with the rebels. According to the Bosnian Serb news agency, they were refusing to enter the town because they did not want to speak to crowds who were assembling in the town centre.

**A local coup has widened to question the authority of the Bosnian Serb leader. The setting up of a crisis headquarters raises the threat of a full-scale power struggle**

wards a potentially controversial new involvement in the Balkans when they agreed to a German-led administration of the shattered city of Mostar. The ministers approved amendments to a plan drafted by Lord Owen, their mediator, which puts the cities of Sarajevo and Mostar under international control if the three factions can agree on a division of Bosnia.

Dr Karadzic and General Mladic were accompanied by General Momir Talic, the Banja Luka military chief, who is clearly no longer in control of the troops who had earlier declared that they had deposed him. The gravity of the situation was underlined as Tanjug, the Belgrade news agency, reported that the rebels were refusing to talk to Dr Karadzic until the local radio and television broadcasting systems had been "unblocked". The Tanjug report

appeared to imply that troops loyal to Dr Karadzic had taken control of a key transmission tower outside Banja Luka. Speaking by telephone, one rebel who asked not to be named said: "There is no question of pulling back until our demands are satisfied."

Tanks and armoured cars took to the streets of Banja Luka on Friday in what amounted to a local coup in the only town of any size under Bosnian Serb control. The units involved are from the 1st Krajina Corps, the largest and single most powerful fighting force in the Bosnian Serb army. Ostensibly the troops have seized control to arrest the war profiteers. They also want to air grievances over pay and conditions, especially for their families and the families of the dead.

Serbs and Croats in neighbouring Croatia battled on several fronts at the weekend.



Sophia Loren, the actress, watching as Stoyan Ganey, the UN General Assembly president, signs a declaration deploring violence against Bosnian women

## Mitsotakis takes credit for the end of austerity

FROM REUTER  
IN SALONIKA

CONSTANTINE Mitsotakis, the Greek prime minister fighting for re-election yesterday, criticised his opponents yesterday for toppling his conservative government just before its austerity programme was to show results.

"Our opponents forced the country into early elections so that Greeks would not see the results of our efforts," he told a news conference. "It was time for salaries and pensions to rise, interest rates to fall and new public works to be put to use," he added.

Mr Mitsotakis went on to call an end to his austerity programme, saying the economy was turning around, and warned 3,000 cheering supporters that if the Socialists returned to power it would spell economic ruin.

His government was toppled six months before the end of its four-year term when two deputies resigned from the ruling New Democracy party to join the Political Spring nationalist party, set up by Antonis Samaras.

## Ukraine prays for Stalin's victims

FROM LIDA POLETZ IN KIEV

THOUSANDS of Ukrainians packed a Kiev square yesterday to pray for the estimated seven and a half million of their countrymen who died in a man-made 1930s famine.

President Kravchuk proclaimed a minute's silence in the shadow of the 12th-century St Sofia cathedral and leaders of Ukraine's Orthodox and Catholic confessions forgot their protracted hostilities and appeared alongside each other during an ecumenical service. More than 10,000 people lit candles and sang patriotic hymns.

"For the first time as a state, Ukraine is in communion with those who died in the famine," Mr Kravchuk said. "These are days of sorrow, days of remembrance and repentance before those who perished." The former Soviet

republic is marking the events prompted by Josef Stalin's forced collectivisation for the first time, after decades of silence under Kremlin rule.

Survivors have related how Red Army soldiers confiscated the grain and livestock of peasants unable to fulfil impossible supply quotas imposed by Moscow. Entire villages were wiped out and more than a million *kulaks*, or wealthier farmers, were deported to Siberia.

Horror pictures of corpses hurled into burning pits or piled high in makeshift morgues have appeared on television screens. A memorial service on Saturday staged a mock trial of Stalinism.

The thousands of worshippers, most of them too young to know anything other than what relatives have told them, moved through the city centre to attend the unveiling of a monument honouring the dead. The monument, the figure of a young woman bearing a child, was erected on the site of the Mikhailivsky cathedral, Kiev's largest church before it was destroyed by Ukraine's Communist rulers in the 1930s.

Mr Kravchuk and other leaders have denounced the famine as an attempt to annihilate the Ukrainian people. But the president has also had to defend himself against charges that Ukraine's current economic hardship in the post-Soviet era could lead to another famine.



Stalin: millions starved in collectivisation drive

## Russia and Italy sign anti-crime pact

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN VILNIUS

RUSSIA and Italy have agreed to co-operate in the fight against organised crime in both countries. The agreement, signed in Moscow at the weekend, provides for regular exchanges of information on drugs and money-laundering.

Last week, David Veness, deputy assistant commissioner of Scotland Yard's organised crime department, spoke of the threat to Britain from east European and Russian criminal groups, particularly in arms and drugs smuggling. However, practi-

cal co-operation between Western police forces and those of the former Soviet Union still appears slight.

For example, although Lithuania is a member of Interpol, liaison with Western police is patchy. Colonel Juozas Rimkevicius, head of the organised crime department of the Lithuanian police, said: "So, too, is Western aid to the impoverished Lithuanian police, where ordinary police earn £27 a month and department chiefs £100."

Colonel Rimkevicius said that the biggest threat to Western aid has been 80 old Soviet-made former East German Zhiguli police cars, "and you can imagine how much use they are against the BMWs which our criminals now drive".

Of more concern to Lithuanians is the way that organised crime is using the transformation of the economy to seize control of major businesses and banks and corrupt the state itself. Arturas Paulauskas, the Lithuanian prosecutor, said Lithuania is in danger of becoming another Sicily, a "mafia-ruled state".

In July, parliament passed a tough law against organised crime allowing detention without charge for up to two months. More than 100 people have been arrested under this law, and cases against two major criminal groups are being prepared.

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James Baker, former US Secretary of State, says the West and the Arab world must put money behind the deal

# Bitter realities underpin the triumph of self-interest



TWO years after Arabs and Israelis met face to face at the US-Soviet sponsored conference in Madrid, Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation are not just crossing an historic diplomatic threshold, but making a decisive commitment to peace.

Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, his foreign minister Shimon Peres, and even Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, deserve great credit for their personal and political courage. Their agreement is grounded on the only true basis for peace in the Middle East: self-interest. It reflects a cool assessment of new realities.

For Mr Arafat and the PLO, these realities include the loss of the Soviet Union as a patron, the drop in financial support from Gulf Arabs — the result of the PLO's support of President Saddam Hussein — and the rise of Hamas as a rival claimant to Palestinian leadership.

For the Israeli government, the realities are no less clear. The stand-off between Israeli security forces and Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza seems as intractable as ever. Radical Islamic fundamentalism throughout the region constitutes a growing threat to Israel, one that manipulates the Arab-Israeli dispute to promote its own extremist goals. Above all, there is a powerful desire among many Israelis to put the political, economic and psychological rigours of being a permanent nation at war behind them.

Throughout the region, there are those — all committed, many fanatic and some dangerously armed — who will do everything to prevent peace. The divide between realists and extremists has never been clearer. But the Israeli-PLO agreement is a beginning, not an end, and progress must be expanded into comprehensive arrangements between Israel and all her

Arab neighbours. In short, we face a diplomatic marathon, not a sprint.

America will be critical in sustaining the current diplomatic initiative, as it has been in creating the atmosphere that permitted it to flourish. We must bring the full weight of our power in support of realistic diplomacy and against extremist obstructionism. This will require not just the efforts of the Secretary of State but the active leadership of the president.

Politically, the United States must help Israel and its Arab neighbours expand the PLO-Israeli breakthrough to a comprehensive peace. Having developed the framework for contacts between Arabs and Israelis, the United States must now urge Syria, Jordan and Lebanon to cross the threshold from negotiations to negotiated agreements — from contacts to contracts. Even then, the hard work of implementation remains a

lengthy, complex multi-party process.

Economically, America should help co-ordinate financial support for the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza. They are desperately short of the resources necessary to undertake the most basic functions of self-rule in Gaza and Jericho. We should also do what we can economically to assist the early empowerment of Palestinians elsewhere in the West Bank, by support in the areas of health, education, welfare, tourism and taxation.

President Clinton should direct Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, and Lloyd Bentsen, the treasury secretary, to organise an international coalition. America should not be expected to bear the financial burden. We are already, through our large assistance programmes with Israel and Egypt, massively committed to the cause of Middle East peace. Wealthy Arab states, historically public sup-

porters and private financiers of the Palestinian cause, must play a leading role in providing assistance. So, too, should the European Community, which has long sought an expanded role in the Middle East, and Japan, with its dependency on imported oil. All have real interests in a stable Middle East.

While the opposition party in Israel has condemned the agreement, the divisions in the Arab world are deeper, broader and more dangerous. Here US diplomacy can and must play an important role.

American recognition of the PLO acknowledges the new political reality created by the PLO-Israeli deal. But the US must also use any new direct contacts with the PLO to ensure that it, too, comprehends new realities.

This is especially true in the area of terrorism, where the PLO's actions must match its words. PLO-

sponsored or tolerated terrorism against Israel or Israelis would constitute the single greatest threat to the prospects of Palestinian autonomy. Palestinian self-rule must mean Palestinian responsibility.

Momentum is the key. Today it lies with the forces of moderation and peace. No one can question the US commitment to peace in the Middle East. After all, the United States was responsible for the environment that has allowed the peace process to flourish. First, we defeated communism in the Cold War, then Arab radicalism in the Gulf — both preconditions for Middle East peace.

However, we on the outside cannot want peace more than the parties themselves, nor can we make it on their behalf. Now, Israel and the PLO are showing that not only do they want peace, but they also know how to make it. *James Baker III*

## US takes limelight as all eyes turn to White House lawn

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

YITZHAK Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, joins Yasser Arafat, the PLO chairman, on a platform on the south lawn of the White House today to witness the signing of the first accord between Israel and the Palestinians since the creation of the state of Israel in 1948.

The dramatic joint appearance was engineered by the White House over the weekend to emphasise the gravity of the occasion and bolster support for the fragile agreement on Palestinian self-rule in both Israel and the occupied territories.

PLO officials told the State Department on Friday night that Mr Arafat would attend the ceremony. At 10.00am on Saturday, Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, telephoned Mr Rabin to tell him of Mr Arafat's decision and urge his attendance also. "I will come," Mr Rabin replied.

The presence of the two leaders compounded the problems of protocol and logistics the White House faced as it prepared for its most momentous ceremony since President Sadat of Egypt, Menachem Begin, the Israeli prime minister, and President Carter signed the Camp David accords there in March, 1979.

About 1,600 guests were invited on that occasion. More than 2,500 will attend today, including former Presidents Carter and Bush, all members of Congress, Washington's diplomatic corps and a host of foreign dignitaries. Dee Dee Myers, the White House spokeswoman, called it the "hottest ticket in town", with leading American Jews pulling every string to obtain an invitation.

Yesterday workmen were hastily constructing an elegant covered dais to be shared by Mr Rabin, Mr Arafat, Mr Clinton, Mr Christopher and Andrei Kozyrev, the Russian foreign minister. The actual signing will be performed by Shimon Peres, the Israeli for-

### Chief fortifies UN

Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, is turning the organisation's headquarters, one of the most accessible public buildings in the world, into a fortress after threats from the Islamic group suspected of bombing the World Trade Centre. (James Bone writes from New York). From Saturday, tourists will be barred while the organisation tries to tighten security on the guided tours.

Foreign minister, and Mahmoud Abbas, also known as Abu Mazen, at the same mahogany desk Mr Sadat and Mr Begin used in 1979.

There will be no embracing and no flags, as the PLO is not a state. The scene will nevertheless comprise a huge public relations coup for Mr Arafat, whose power and prestige among Palestinians had just a few weeks ago reached its lowest ebb.

Mr Arafat was last allowed into America in 1974 to address the UN General Assembly. He appeared in his trademark battle fatigues and Arab headdress with a gun holster on his hip. He left Tunis yesterday in the same uniform, and Washington was agog to see whether he would change into more statesman-

like dress for the ceremony and tonight's formal White House dinner for 120 guests.

Security will be extraordinarily tight, but another unresolved problem was to keep apart Mr Rabin's and Mr Arafat's personal bodyguards. The dramatic ceremony should also prove a big political bonus for Mr Clinton, though the America played no role in the secret negotiations that produced the accord and the president's personal involvement in the peace process has been negligible. The only negative aspect of the ceremony is that the occasion has completely eclipsed the two major domestic issues he was planning to promote last week and this — reform of the federal government and the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Mr Clinton used an interview with *The New York Times* yesterday, to boost Israeli public support for both the Palestinian accord and a future agreement with Syria by promising America's unflinching support for Israel.

He said there would be no reduction in US aid or military support, and aides said there might even be an increase in military support to finance the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

Today's ceremony is expected to be followed by a smaller one at the State Department tomorrow in which Israeli and Jordanian representatives finally announce an agreement on an agenda for a peace treaty between their two states. This agenda has been under negotiation since the Middle East peace talks began 22 months ago.

□ *Terrassa, Spain:* The proposed state of Palestine could take part in the Atlanta Games in 1996. Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the international Olympic Committee, said here. (AFP)

Historic signing, page 1

## West Bank factions take to streets

FROM CAROLINE HAWLEY IN RAMALLAH ON THE WEST BANK

THE image of Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organisation leader, and Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, standing together on the White House lawn — and very likely shaking hands — fills many Palestinians with joy, but others are enraged.

"It will be a scene of surrender," Riad Malki, a spokesman for the rejectionist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), said. "The PLO embodied in Arafat will be surrendering to Rabin."

Khadja Amjad, a 40-year-old mother of 12 children in the Jalazon refugee camp was confident that the agreement would usher in a new era of tranquility. "Abu Amar [Mr Arafat] and Rabin will sign an agreement that will give us peace and give a future for my children," she said.

Throughout the occupied territories demonstrations have been held to hail and denounce the agreement. At Palestinian self-rule, PLO supporters hoist Palestinian flags while opponents shake their fists in anger at Mr Arafat's perceived betrayal of their cause.

In Ramallah, north of Jerusalem on the West Bank, shops were closed yesterday as residents mourned the death of two Palestinians killed by Israeli soldiers on Saturday in the bloodiest clash since the PLO and Israel reached their historic but controversial agreement.

As PLO supporters marched through the town centre bearing Palestinian flags and photographs of Mr Arafat, about 500 opponents of the agreement staged a rival demonstration. Protesters, mainly from the secular left-wing PFLP, hurled stones and bottles at Israeli soldiers who shot back with teargas, rubber bullets and live ammunition. By the end of the day two Palestinians were dead and more than 20 wounded. The Israeli army said some had been injured, not by its own soldiers, but by opponents of the peace accord.

The violence underlined just how difficult a job Mr Arafat faces in ruling a population split over whether the time has come to make peace



A Palestinian child burns an Israeli flag in a Hamas-controlled area of Gaza City

with Israel after more than four decades of fighting.

In Gaza City yesterday three Israeli soldiers died when their jeep was ambushed and raked by Palestinian gunfire. Later, thousands of Palestinians took to the streets to celebrate

the PLO-Israeli accord. The previous day, lorry-loads of young Palestinians paraded through the town centre in a carnival atmosphere flying Palestinian flags, waving photographs of Mr Arafat, singing and dancing. Similar celebrations were

held in the West Bank town of Jericho, where the previous day Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine had joined hands in a rally to denounce the deal as a "sale of Palestine".

## Syria holds out for control of Golan

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

JORDAN is due to take the first steps towards being the next Arab signatory to a peace pact with Israel, with Syria still holding out for total withdrawal from the occupied Golan Heights as the public condition for its willingness to join the peace process.

Jordan and Israel hope to announce agreement on an agenda for their future peace talks tomorrow, probably at a joint news conference at the State Department. Marwan Muasher, Jordan's spokesman at the Washington peace talks, said yesterday: "It is tentative. We expect to be able to do it Tuesday." Mr Muasher said, adding that "there will be no signing". A Jordanian source said Israeli and Jordanian officials were working last night on final amendments to the agenda.

Although Damascus has refused to condemn the PLO-Israeli accord, it has made no secret of its anxiety at the secret way in which it was reached. Any Syrian agreement is expected to be followed swiftly by one involving its client state, Lebanon, where 40,000 Syrian troops are based.

On Saturday, state-run Damascus Radio accused Israel of offering "partial and conditional withdrawals" from occupied Arab lands and stated Syria's determination not to give up its claim to an inch of its territory. Despite the tone of the commentary, Western observers expect today's Washington ceremony to ease the path to an agreement between Jerusalem and Damascus.

"President Assad [of Syria] will not want to be left so far behind," said one European diplomat last night. "He will be looking for the Americans to help in finding ways in which the current obstacle between Israel and Syria can be overcome."

For many weeks, that obstacle has been disagreement over whether Israel will first offer total withdrawal from Golan, or whether Syria will first pledge peace.

Yassir Arafat: from public enemy No. 1 to pacific partner

## First Lady helps change of image

FROM BEN LYNFIELD IN JERUSALEM AND CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

WHATEVER Yitzhak Rabin may think during his encounter today with Yasser Arafat, the Israeli public will be slow in adjusting to images of a kinder, gentler PLO leader after years of viewing him as a terrorist committed to destruction of the Jewish state.

But growing expectations that their peace agreement will bring relief from decades of conflict will be enough to overshadow negative perceptions. If Mr Arafat gets his way, the reconciliation between Israel and the PLO will bring him to the West Bank town of Jericho in a "matter of weeks", he said yesterday.

Although the Palestinians do not yet have a state, they already have a First Lady, which could help the change in image. The Washington spotlight which falls today on Yasser Arafat, 64, will also serve to bring out of the shadows Suha, the 30-year-old personal assistant he married secretly in July 1991, breaking a vow that he would remain only "be-



Suha Arafat: converted to Islam, married in secret

trothed to the revolution". Suha Arafat (née Tawil) is a tall, multi-lingual blonde who with her penchant for Louis Feraud suits and her Rolex watch would look more in place on the Champs Elysees than the dusty streets of Jericho, where her husband plans to set up his new

home. Her youth and her religion (she was a Greek Orthodox Christian before conversion to Islam) scandalised many headline Palestine radicals. But Mr Arafat went ahead anyway.

Converting Israel's public enemy No. 1 into a peace partner will be no easy task.

Mr Rabin and his aides still seem to view him with considerable distaste. Visibly uncomfortable when asked yesterday by CNN if he would shake Mr Arafat's hand, Mr Rabin replied: "If it will be needed."

However, Mordechai Gur, the deputy defence minister, told Israel radio: "If I have a chance I will shake his hand, because I want to make every effort to enable all of us to have a better future."

Uri Dromi, the government spokesman, added: "Arafat has not become a rabbi in our view, he has just become a realist. The change in his image will not come overnight even if Rabin shakes his hand. It will come when people feel they are benefiting from the agreement."

A survey in the *Yidiot Achronot* newspaper showed that 57 per cent of Israelis support the peace plan, an increase of four points from a poll conducted at the beginning of the month. Forty-one per cent are opposed to the agreement.

Yitzhak Rabin: ruthless general and courageous negotiator

## Tough fighter offers his hand

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

MILLIONS of Arabs and Jews watching the televised signing ceremony at the White House will only believe that history really is being made when they see the handshake between Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, and his long-term foe, Yasser Arafat, the PLO chairman.

Although the current peace agreement was negotiated by Shimon Peres, his life-long political rival, the deal with the PLO would have been worthless in the eyes of the Israeli public had it not received Mr Rabin's endorsement. The Israeli leader is not known to make gestures lightly. To Arabs he is a hard and uncompromising foe; to Israelis a taciturn figure who prefers respect to love and security to peace.

Mr Arafat knows this more than anyone. When serving as defence minister in 1985, Mr Rabin masterminded the bombing of the PLO headquarters in Tunis, and a decade earlier made this assessment of the Palestinian leader. He told Robert



Rabin: victor of the six-day war

Slater, the author of the recent biography *Rabin of Israel*: "He represents to me all that is evil, and a concept, a philosophy which is contradictory to the very existence of this country."

A soldier by profession, a politician by choice and a

diplomat by necessity, Mr Rabin has spent a good part of his 71 years locked in a relentless conflict with the Arab world. Born in Jerusalem, the chain-smoking Israeli leader epitomises the *sabra* (Jews born in the Holy Land) who had to conquer and subdue Arab enemies to carve out the state of Israel.

Mr Rabin commanded some of the hardest-fought battles in the largely successful campaign to capture and hold areas of western Jerusalem in the 1948 war of independence. He rose to command Israel's armed forces in their finest hour in June 1967, when they defeated the combined might of the Arab armies in six days.

Mr Rabin then turned to politics, entering parliament in 1973 for the governing Labour Party and succeeding Golda Meir as prime minister the following year. During his three-year tenure, he established ceasefire agreements with Egypt and Syria but was probably best remembered as the leader who

ordered the Entebbe rescue mission of airline passengers seized by Palestinian hijackers.

As defence minister in a national unity government in 1985 he established the "security zone" in southern Lebanon to protect Israel's northern border and salvage some benefits from the military fiasco of the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Since then Mr Rabin has emerged as one of Israel's political leaders whose solutions to security problems are often more extreme than policies of the right wing. After the outbreak of the intifada in 1987 he ordered troops to "break the bones" of Arab youths rioting against Israeli rule in the occupied territories.

Nevertheless, Mr Rabin's colleagues in and outside Israel insist there is more to his actions than a biblical "eye for an eye" mentality; that behind the soldier lies an astute analytical mind, as courageous in the negotiating room as it is on the battlefield.



## Clinton plans consumer-led revolution in health care

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER  
IN WASHINGTON

A TRICKLE of leaks had become a torrent, but over the weekend the dam gave way completely: a bootlegged copy of President Clinton's plan for reforming America's \$900 billion (£600 billion) health care system was splashed across *The New York Times*, eclipsing even the Middle East peace accord.

"Reform" is an inadequate word to describe Mr Clinton's ambitions for American health care. His is a plan of breathtaking scope and audacity. The aim is not merely to improve the present system, which accounts for a seventh of the US economy, but to tear it down and start again.

Presidents Truman and Nixon both tried and failed to establish national health insurance, but they did so in their second terms when they were no longer concerned with re-election. All subsequent presidents have ducked the challenge, but Mr Clinton has opted to confront it barely eight months after taking office. On this single issue he is gambling his presidency, and

**■ To guarantee health security for every American, the President has opted to tear down the system and start again. Huge opposition forces stand in his way**

the reputation of his wife, Hillary, the plan's midwife through its eight hectic months of gestation.

Mr Clinton is betting that he can prevail by guaranteeing security to every American — the 27 million without health insurance and the tens of millions in unstable jobs who are terrified of losing it. In doing so, Mr Clinton would at last bring America in line with the rest of the developed world which considers health care a right, not a privilege.

The president, who formally unveils the plan in a nationally televised address to Congress on September 22, will also argue that America's budget deficit can never be controlled without ending the explosion in health care costs.

Unusually, corporate America — hobbled by soaring health bills — is on Mr Clinton's side, but the obstacles ahead of him are enormous.

An army of special interests has prepared multi-million-dollar campaigns to defeat him. Congress is divided. Above all, his plan is bewilderingly complex and totally unfamiliar to ordinary Americans.

The plan's core is the concept of huge consumer groups, called regional alliances, that would purchase health care from networks of doctors, hospitals and insurance companies who would compete on price and quality.

Every American — except initially retirees on Medicare — would be required to join an alliance. Most would be enrolled by their employers, who would pay 80 per cent of the premium and the employee the rest. The self-employed and unemployed would join directly. Officials estimate that the average premium would be little more than now — about \$1,800 a year for individuals and \$4,200 for families with subsidies for the poor and for small businesses. Large corporations could form their own "alliances".

That premium would guarantee a basic package of minimum benefits, but the alliances would also offer much more expensive plans enabling individuals to choose their doctors. No one could be denied insurance.

All this relies on market forces to keep costs down, but the plan also contains a heavy dose of government regulation. States would be required to have the new system in place by the beginning of 1997.

Capitol Hill's reaction has been tentative — a reflection, perhaps, of the public's ambivalence. That will not last. The plan, devised by academics, has many weaknesses, of which the biggest appears to be the hugely optimistic financial assumptions on which it is based.

Officials claim the plan will shave \$91 billion from the federal deficit over seven years. Mr Clinton also postulates enormous savings elsewhere that few independent analysts deem credible.



General Augusto Pinochet, who led the 1973 coup in Chile, acknowledging applause as supporters greeted him outside his home in Santiago at the weekend to mark the 20th anniversary of the coup that toppled Salvador

Allende, the Marxist president. The general came close to asking Chile's forgiveness and admitted excesses during the coup. "He who has been in battle knows what the noise of bullets means, knows when someone falls at

one's feet. This produces a mental uncontrol which many times leads to unjustified excesses," he said. Two people were killed and six seriously injured in clashes between police and pro-Allende protesters. (Reuters)

## Carter in contact with warlord

BY JAMES BONE AND SAM KILEY

THE former American president, Jimmy Carter, told a newspaper in Atlanta at the weekend that he had been in regular contact with the fugitive Somali warlord General Muhammad Farrah Aidid during recent fighting in Mogadishu. He was not negotiating the general's surrender, "just relaying what he says".

The warlord, whose followers have killed almost 50 UN peacekeepers since June, initiated the contact with Mr Carter by writing him a letter appealing for an independent commission to investigate the violence in Somalia. General Aidid said he would "abide by the finding and decision of the commission".

Mr Carter said he had held "fairly regular" conversations with General Aidid since they began communicating about a month ago. He did not know where the warlord was, although he had been told he was still in Mogadishu.

The former Democratic president said he had discussed General Aidid's proposal with the UN secretary-general, Boutros Boutros Ghali. Mr Carter added: "I think that the sustained effort to kill or capture Aidid, which is resulting in the death of many Somali civilians, is something that should be terminated."

The UN has launched an investigation into the Italian contingent's role in Mogadishu after allegations from Nigerian commanders that the Italians were paying militiamen not to attack them. The allegations came after seven Nigerians were killed when they were sent to take over Italian positions. The Nigerians' commander, Lieutenant Colonel Ola Oyindola, accused the Italians of not coming to the defence of his men.

Yesterday the Italian ambassador to the Somali capital, Mario Scalaja, denied that payments had been made to the militiamen, but admitted that the people close to its main checkpoints had been given "social assistance" and money for rehabilitation projects. Admiral Jonathan Howe, head of the UN operations in Somalia, refused to rule out the possibility that the Italians had paid the local militia not to attack their men.

Meanwhile, the UN and General Aidid's Somali National Alliance have opened negotiations for the release of a wounded Nigerian private captured during the clash. According to Ali Hassan Osman, a close aide to the general, the SNA is demanding the release of 17 prisoners from a UN detention camp.



Carter: proposal for an investigation discussed

## SAS joins hunt for elephant poachers

BY SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

SPECIAL Air Service soldiers have arrived in Kenya on a three-month mission to train anti-poaching units in anti-guerrilla warfare and sniping techniques to combat a rise in poaching by armed Somalis.

The SAS, Britain's expert squad in anti-terrorist and covert operations, will not only train the Kenya wildlife service's anti-poaching units, but also is likely to join them on active service against bandits who have swarmed into Kenya from neighbouring Somalia.

The poachers have not only increased their killing of elephants for ivory in Kenya — five pachyderms were shot in one day earlier this month — but they have also started to smuggle more stockpiled ivory and horn. The SAS is expected to equip the units with specialist night-vision goggles and sniper sights capable of picking out a human figure at several hundred yards.

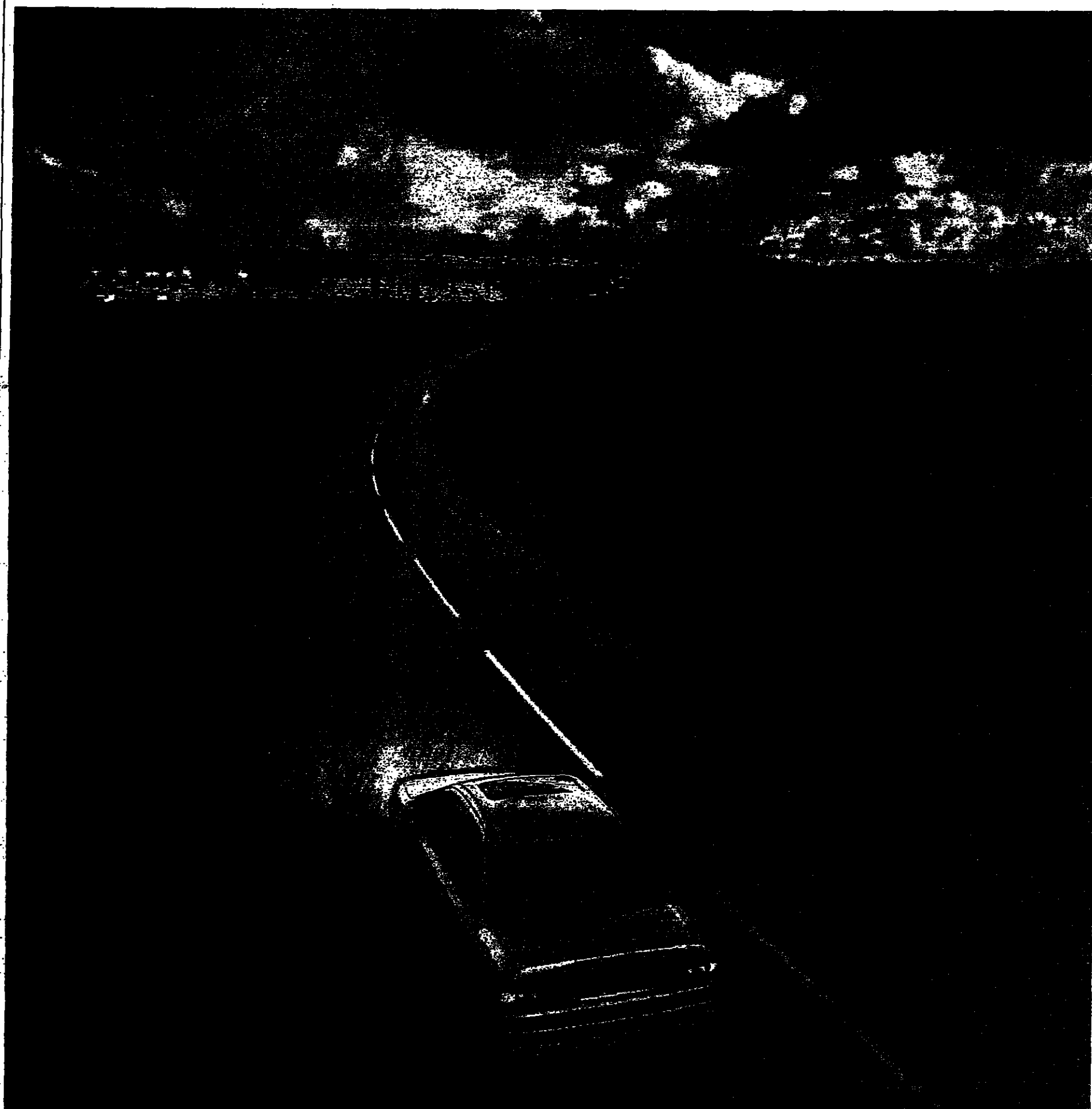
The arrival of about 100 SAS men came at the request of Dr Richard Leakey, director of the Kenya wildlife service. It is understood that the Duke of Edinburgh, one of Dr Leakey's supporters, backed

his application for help from the SAS.

The unprecedented military aid to the wildlife service, a private institution and not part of the Kenyan government, comes as the anarchy in Somalia has made it easy for ivory and rhinoceros-horn smugglers to ship their illegal goods to the Far East and Yemen, where there continues to be a ready market in spite of a worldwide ban on the sale of both.

Although large amounts of ivory and rhino horn is being shipped from Mogadishu, the Somali capital, Kenyan security sources said that an equal amount was also being shipped from the coastal resort town of Malindi. One Kenya wildlife service officer investigating the trade, which is believed to have links to the Mafia and money-laundering activities through hotels in Malindi, was recently threatened with death if he continued his work.

The anti-poaching units have been drafted into the Lamu district to check bandit attacks on tourists because the police and army have been incapable of meeting the challenge.



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# Stephen's genius to amaze

**Margaret Hewson and Peter Taylor**  
report on the astonishing new musical talent discovered in an autistic boy

**T**he teenage boy standing beside his music teacher's grand piano was belting out the old Sam Cooke number with formidable style and gusto. Don't know much about history.

Don't know much biology

But when he came to the last line — "What a wonderful world it would be" — he altered the lyric. "What a wonderful world for me," he sang, full of a thrilling self-absorbed happiness, oblivious to others present in the room.

Stephen Wiltshire, the autistic boy who first came to public attention through his brilliant architectural drawings, lives in a wonderful world that is still largely his own. Many autistic children never even learn how to speak. Now, aged 19, his astonishing recall of line and perspective is better than ever, but a new musical talent has also been unearthed.

As he sits in the drawing room in west London of his music teacher, Evelyn Preston, picking his way through a blues sequence on the piano, he seems like any other aspiring pianist with ambitions beyond his practical skills. It is not his playing, or even his singing, but his comprehension of music which is extraordinary.

Stephen is capable of aural recognition of pitch in all registers and all instruments. His own musical preferences are much the same as any other teenager — pop and rap — but after hearing any piece of music he can correctly identify the sequence of chords, reeling them off effortlessly. Scientists are still pondering the implications of his abilities, but whatever conclusions are drawn his story is primarily a human triumph.

Stephen's extraordinary tal-



Stephen Wiltshire, as well as being a artist of rare ability, can recognise musical pitch in all registers and all instruments — and can reel off sequences of chords effortlessly

ents were a treasure trove waiting to be discovered. But the fact that they came to light at all is a tribute to the dedication and persistence of teachers who could easily have misread the signs.

Mute, and apparently uninterested in his surroundings, he seemed to live in a sealed world. It was only when, after painfully slow progress, he one day produced wickedly accurate caricatures of his teachers — and laughed uproariously at their subsequent discomfort — that the treasure was first glimpsed. The boy who studiously avoided eye

contact had not only been watching, but was possessed of uncanny powers of perception.

Stephen was born in London in 1974 to West Indian parents who already had a two-year-old daughter, Deirdre. Although the birth was straightforward, it soon became clear that Stephen was different. He was mute, and refused to play with other children: screaming, and finding refuge in a corner if they approached.

Even his parents' attempts to play with him were rebuffed (he hated to be touched), but

when his mother, Geneva, sought medical advice she was told: "Not to worry. Stephen's fine." But he wasn't, and shortly before his third birthday he was diagnosed as autistic. Soon afterwards his father was killed in a motorcycle accident, and mother and daughter were left alone to cope with a child whose communication with the world consisted of uncontrolled screaming fits alternating with long interludes of silence.

The turning point came when, at the age of four, Stephen was sent to Queensmill School in London,

which caters for children with "special needs". Lorraine Cole, the school's headmistress, says: "He was totally withdrawn and almost mute. He seemed unaware of other people, made no eye contact, and roamed aimlessly. He would make sudden dashes to other rooms, where he would stare intently at pictures which fascinated him, and then bolt back to his classroom."

"He would co-operate in a mechanical way when his teacher worked with him individually, but the moment his teacher moved away, he would start his lonely pacing, or find paper and pencil and scribble totally absorbed, for long periods."

Stephen was taught to read and write, but his drawings were his real outlet. Eventually, he made a plaintive request for drawing materials. "Paper," he asked. The caricatures followed soon after, but another talent was also surfacing. During a drama session his portrayal of an angry man in a restaurant was so spirited and funny, that it was only when teachers played back the

video that they realised he had not actually used words, only a wide range of angry voices. "It was then that we understood his capacity for imitating sounds," Ms Cole says.

**H**is talents as an artist developed gradually, but blossomed wonderfully. By the time he featured in a BBC1 documentary about the school, he was drawing the Royal Academy. Sir Hugh Hallett, who is training him as a draughtsman, says: "He has drawn and books of his drawings of New York, Moscow, Venice and other cities followed. They fetched up to £1,800 a time and enabled a trust fund to be set up to provide some security for his future."

The music lessons began two years ago, but it was only last June that Stephen's teacher, Ms Preston, realised that he was a musical savant. "He can go just as far as I can take him," she says.

Stephen's social skills remain limited. Autism is not

fully understood, but sufferers have less need for the company of others. When asked a question, Stephen responds thoughtfully and precisely, but without any apparent wish to take the conversation further.

Of his favourite singers, he lists: "Michael Jackson, Elvis Presley, American soul and rap music and American rock. Some country and western, but I don't like heavy metal."

His job in a bakery is closing, but more challenging opportunities are opening up. He is to have a meeting soon with the Architectural Association to find out if a special course might develop his draughtsmanship. He lives with his mother and sister in Paddington, and has developed enough confidence to find his way around the city without fear or confusion.

Stephen's favourite city is New York, and sheer happiness once again floods the room when he talks about it. "A very beautiful city. I'm going to live in New York. I've designed my penthouse on Park Avenue."

## Oh, it pricks the heart

**I**n the battle against property crime, technology never sleeps. After deadlocks, revolving spikes and ultrasonic alarms comes a new weapon: *Rosa rugosa*. A band of crime prevention officers and horticulturalists in Essex has announced a package of 12 plants recommended to give burglars a bad time. The rose above is recommended for snagging the crook's trousers so that forensic science may track him down. *Berberis gagnepainii* is as impenetrable as a safe door, and *Rosa Frühlings Gold* not only resists greenfly but grows to 6ft — taller than your average stunted teenage underclass burglar, y'know — and disables him into the bargain.

The tug-and-trowel tendency leapt enthusiastically onto this idea. The *Daily Mail* featured Clay Jones, retiring chairman of *Gardeners' Question Time*, to review the killer shrubs. "It was an inspired choice," Mr Jones, hitherto so benevolent, has lately been spiked in the thicket of BBC politics. (He is also in possession of various extraordinary letters from disturbed listeners, like one saying that the bad news from Somalia, Bosnia, etc "paled into insignificance" beside the news that their favourite presenter was leaving. This kind of humane balance and reluctance to overreact is just what we British so rightly pride ourselves on, is it not?)

Clay Jones was therefore clearly in the mood for savage musings like "Put a pyracantha up your drainpipe and a thief can say goodbye to his hopes of starting a family." He speaks of "howls of pain" and praises the way that cuts from *Ceanothus monogyna* "cause septic infections and need



LIBBY PURVES

treatment straight away". Vigilant gardeners will chuckle over their dibbers with glee. And, call me sappy, but I find it an alarming glee.

After all what is life, what is gardening, if you cannot keep green shades for green and peaceful thoughts rather than bloodstained fantasies? It is not that I have never been burgled — I have, twice, and know about the hammering heart when you get home to find lights on, the sense of outrage, the lost sentimental trinkets. Not to mention the sheer embarrassment of having tidy policemen looking at your bedroom and saying: "They've made a mess in here, haven't they?" Whereupon you have to admit that er, actually, the pulled-out drawers and strewn clothing are quite normal. Of course security is sensible.

**B**ut there is still something depressing about the idea of revelling in a castration-by-pyracantha taking place on your very drainpipe, or of planning septic wounds for your fellow man. Call me a wet studies flower-child, but I find to fantasise about the effect of garden plants on burglars I prefer to paint a deeper picture: how about the young robber climbing up through fragrant honeysuckle and roses, being reminded of the smell of his dear old granny's rosewater-scented lip, and weeping Dickensian tears of contrition as he steals away, empty-handed, to lead a better life?

Soggy, sentimental? I admit it. I am, — especially in a dreamy garden sort of mood — the kind of drip who can live for weeks on the optimism about human nature generated by stories like the one about the two teenage burglars who broke into a flat and found a small child panicking because his granny had fallen down the stairs. They called the ambulance, looked after the baby and never stole a thing. When the doorbell rings, I look out for Carol singers, not muggers. I do not wish to own a pit bull called Tyson, ever. Having said that, of course, I will not doubt be found one day in a pool of gore while my worldly goods thunder away in a plain van. But you will have the satisfaction of saying: "Told you so! Serve you right! You should have planted *Berberis ottomensis* 'superba' and ripped their gummies off!"

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### Valerie Grove on the king who returned to Greece

## When Constantine was told to go

**HE DESCRIBES** it as a happy family holiday. They walked on beaches. They swam and water-skied off the yacht. They sat in cafes, bought postcards and ice-creams. And he showed his five children the island of Petali, where he spent his boyhood summers.

King Constantine II of Greece, home from his Aegean odyssey, pores over a map of Greece in his small south-floor office in Mayfair. It is a cosy room, littered with books and Greek icons. "We are all smokers here," he says, indicating eldest daughter Princess Alexandra, middle son Prince Nikolaos, and his American PR man Bob Leaf.

The coiled king is a man of commanding height and easy charm, keen to emphasise the innocuous nature of a trip that caused such political unease in his homeland. "The longing has always been there. I kept away when Greece was made a republic [by referendum in 1974] because I didn't want to cause any problems. But we decided the time was right. It was just a matter of finding a way to keep the element of surprise." He invited Selina Scott's boat and film crew, he explained, because he knew Greek television cameras would follow him, and Selina had told him, when she made her film about the King and Queen of Spain (his sister) that if he ever went back to Greece she wanted to cover the story. And it was a story — from the welcome on landing at Salonika airport to the tearful farewells in Santorini.

"Everywhere, people clapped spontaneously, pulled at my suit and hugged me. In little fishing villages they poured out of their houses. At Florina the welcome was tumultuous. We were overcome by warmth."

The king's return became possible when last year, after a long legal battle, he settled his tax debt to the Greek government. He retains Mon Repos on Corfu and a house, tombs and gardens at Tatol, near Athens. They had been to Tatol and had hoped to see the caves at Mistra and the Emperor Constantine's palace, but at this point a

message arrived requesting the king to "avoid densely populated areas" — and a crowd of thousands had gathered.

Only at the little harbour of Neapolis, he claims, was there any sign of hostility. "The crowd lifted me in their arms, but some people had got organised and there were about ten who booed."

Things became tense when the yacht was buzzed by torpedo boats and low-flying military aircraft. Then harbour police stopped them from landing at a small island, so they anchored and came to a compromise. "I said I wasn't prepared to discuss under duress. So the patrol boats left and we agreed not to land. Which was very sad because people had come to see us. I think some people over-reacted. Based on assumptions of what they thought I might try to do. But I did not go there for a confrontation."

"I have stated repeatedly that I accept the republic. That is not in dispute, certainly not by me. We have laws, and a constitution, and I respect them all. But I want to be treated with equal rights like everybody else. And therefore I hope to go back again. Although I have no immediate plans to do so."

The Greek royal family enjoys frequent reunions with its many European relations: on Majorca with his sister the Queen, in Denmark with his mother-in-law, at Cowes with cousin Philip. There was a gathering in London for Constantine's fiftieth birthday, and in Scandinavia for his silver wedding. Now his aim is that the family should be free to come and go regularly in Greece, too.

"We are all integrated in Europe; our Greek passports are those little red European passports like yours, we are free citizens of this world. I want nothing more than that."

"The republic of Greece must get used to the idea that I am a Greek citizen. I can't help it if people are happy and kind and want to see me and don't say 'go away'. Would he make a home there again? One step at a time."



Constantine, "a Greek citizen"



A traditional fabric comes out of the evening shadows to claim its place in the autumn wardrobe



# Everyone has a crush on velvet



Fashion  
— IAIN R. WEBB

EVERYWHERE you look fashion appears to be falling apart at the seams. The latest stars of the catwalk (Arne Demeulemeester, Martin Margiela, Jean Colonna) are telling us that it's chic to wear clothes that don't fit properly, are unfinished around the edges, and never, ever see an iron.

This may be fun when you're 15, but what about the lady who would prefer to dress as a lady, rather than look like a waif and stray? To dress up, rather than down.

Fortunately fashion is no longer dogmatic. It offers options and provides myriad avenues to explore, picking and choosing as you go. Where there is grunge there is also glamour. Where there is the dishevelled youth, there still exists the *soigné* siren.

Perhaps the strongest story this season, apart from knitwear, is the re-emergence of velvet. Nothing looks more splendid, or more plush. The fabric catches the light, and seems to glow even after dark. But what is new this time around is that velvet is no longer confined simply to night-time escapades.

Designers are shaking up the wardrobe, and are knocking down existing rules and regulations with as much verve as they shed chiffon, or rip gaping holes in sweaters. As the autumn and winter collections begin to appear in the stores, now is the perfect time to rethink your wardrobe, to think about how you dress, and what is and is not appropriate. Velvet is a daytime option, with the weight of the international designers behind it, now falls into the former category.

The Americans seem exceptionally enthusiastic about the concept. They are ardent fol-



Above: Red velvet long waistcoat, £29.99, matching trousers, £16.99, by Sling Cooper (071-957 0064). Black slip dress, £24.99, Miss Selfridge, 40 Duke Street, W1, Unit 93, Amdale Centre, Manchester, 13-21 Hanover Street, Edinburgh. Black gloves, £20 approx, Cornelia James, department stores.

lowers of all-things sleek and refined, and are known for their no-nonsense collections. Their pared-down silhouettes translate with ease into velvet. Norma Kamali showed exquisite trouser suits in rich damson and blackberry. Her high-buttoning jackets fall open from the waist, skimming the thigh. Ralph Lauren's velvet jackets are softly constructed, and worn with either wide, flapping trousers, or tight cigarette pants with deep turn-ups. Another jacket fits the body like a glove, with 16 tiny covered buttons running down the front.

Other velvet looks from

and something Dick Turpin might wear, as did Karl Lagerfeld for Chanel. Lagerfeld also added wide lapelled double-breasted blazers, and an overblown *Gone With The Wind* skirt in black velvet, trailing yards of fabric behind model Claudia Schiffer as she hauled Lagerfeld's creation along the catwalk.

Treated velvet, crushed and tie-dyed, featured in the collections of Rifat Ozbek and Jil Sander in Milan. As ever, Ozbek took a jumble of cultural references and created a clever, unified image.

Long skirts and pinafore dresses were coloured grey, brown, and pinky red. Sander produced a pair of low-slung wide trousers in silver grey which are destined to become the pattern for a million copies.

OLIVER by Valentino pulled together references as diverse as Ross Poldark and Marc Bolan. Sugar-almend velvet blazers, for men and women, were worn with knickerbockers. A more sombre selection of velvet tunics and shift dresses was shown at Prada, each tied around the bust with long laces.

Luckily, the British marketplace is full of wonderful velvet pieces. On the high street, Marks & Spencer has a sleek trouser suit in crushed velvet the colour of a fine red wine; Miss Selfridge has shorty smock tunics; and Whistles has a whole wardrobe full of velvet, from medieval heroine dresses which fall from the bosom, to neat three-piece trouser suits.

Which leaves the best till last. Edina Ronay's collection features ultra-rampy velvet trouser suits, with lounge-lizard smoking jackets which tie at the waist; roomy matelot trousers; and an all-enveloping, double-breasted coat with floor-sweeping hem.

Ronay's designs are the antithesis of the fall-apart fashions favoured by the young, yet are still very much part of the scene, offering fashion for those who are only young-at-heart.



Above: Ruby velvet tie belt jacket, £625, matching matelot trousers, £275, by Edina Ronay, 141 King's Road, SW3, Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1. Black see-through shirt, £40 approx, from Jigsaw, 31 Brompton Road, SW5, Queen Victoria Street, Leeds, 53-54 East Street, Brighton. (081 878 8443). Black button shoes, £39.99 (style no: M23055), Next/Directory (0345 100 500). Redberry opaque tights, £3.25, Pretty Polly, all big department stores.

Top: Bordeaux crushed velvet jacket, £35, matching trousers, £35, from selected branches of Marks & Spencer nationwide (071-935 4422). Black full front see-through shirt, £63, Jigsaw

## Chance to help

LET your passion for fashion help a child. The Rainbow Trust, a charity for children with life-threatening or terminal illnesses, has organised a sale of designer and high street fashions where everything will cost less than £30.

A small donation will get you a cosmetic makeover or aromatherapy treatment by the Body Shop team. The sale is on Friday and Saturday at Unit 2, Lancer Square, 28a Kensington Church Street, W8.

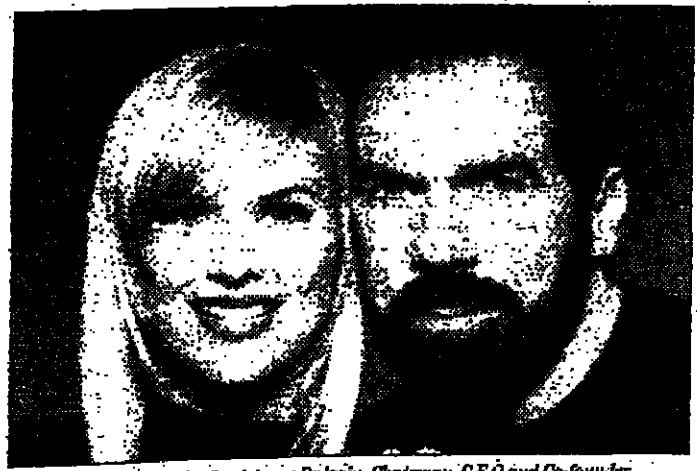
● ANDREA Galer is a fashion designer with a difference — until recently she created costumes for television and film productions, designing to the individual requirements of actors and actresses.

She has since opened a shop where, although most of her clients are women, she does undertake commissions for men's clothes. By mid October there will be a second shop in Walton Street, W1, but until then creations by Galer are available at 4 England Lane, NW3, (071-483 3242). Suits start at £400 up to £750.

● DESIGNER Daniel James has collaborated with the artists Gilbert and George and next month he unveils a range of limited edition T-shirts depicting images boldly entitled "Attacked" and "City Drop".

A series of 12 T-shirts is to be produced and sold with a numbered certificate ensuring Gilbert and George enthusiasts a collectable design. To herald the arrival of the collection, two paintings by the artists will be hung in the Daniel James shop in Sloane Street, SW1. Prices will range from £30 to £150 for more elaborate and hand-embroidered designs.

RACHEL COLLINS



Elaine Brandy with John Paul Jones DeJoria, Chairman, C.E.O and Co-founder of John Paul Mitchell Systems Inc. Hair styled using Paul Mitchell Luxury Hair Care. © John Paul Mitchell Systems (UK) Ltd 1993. All rights reserved.

# PAUL MITCHELL

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## Matthew Parris



■ Fate has already written the denouement of the political plot — so why not cut the cackle?

Do you think my mind is maturing late, or simply rotting early? The question was put by Ogden Nash, and I begin to know what he means. Here we are in mid-September, cantering up to the party conference season with the newspapers full of excited pre-conference rumour — and I know my pulse should be quickening. But it isn't. I am gripped by a deadening sense of *déjà vu*. I feel like the little boy trying not to yawn as his mummy reads the bedtime story in tones of breathless excitement...

"And then the medium-sized bear said 'Who's been eating my porridge?'..."

"Oh, cut the crap, Mum. I know the ending anyway."

I know I ought to be agog. I know we should be following each twist and turn in the political plot as though it were happening for the first time and could lead anywhere. But, like the *Times* reader who complained the show's stunning *coup de théâtre* had been revealed in the review and spoilt for future audiences, I have such a sense of knowing the ending to today's political dramas that the sensation is not so much of following a story as of watching the unrepentant performance of a tried and tested classical ballet. Is it scene two? Then the swan should be coming on in half a minute.

Take the privatisation of British Rail. It is perfectly obvious that this is not really going to happen. Railways are not profitable unless somebody else takes care of the track. It's all going to turn into the most awful mess, with backbench revolts or threats of revolts, delays, retreats and, finally, a few half-hearted "experimental" mini-privatisations, probably of the Fenchurch Street to Southend service. So couldn't we move straight from here to there? Must we endure a whole season of "news" on this front, as the political ants scurry towards and around the edge of the abyss into which they are not, in the end, going to jump?

Or the privatisation of British Coal. Don't make me laugh! Nobody is deep-mining coal any more, except as a make-work scheme. There's coal lying all over the surface of this planet, to be bulldozed into ships. But of course the Tory conference must be told next month that plans are proceeding, a number of private operators, interested, etc. Slowly we'll be let down, as more pits close. When one considers all the uncertainty, all the anguish, all the political scum, all the talking up and all the talking down that lie between now and the realisation that it is never going to

I have such a sense of knowing the ending to political dramas that the sensation is of classical ballet

happen, a great weariness steals over one.

Then, of course, there's the big fight of the season: John Smith v. the TUC. This exciting match, my friends, has been rigged — by logic. Smith has to win, and will win, because the unions haven't a leg to stand on. The only question is how many rounds the thing must go before the doughty Labour leader "triumphs" and we all trot out the predictable metaphors about the hare and the tortoise, slow and steady wins the race, softly-softly-catchee-monkeye, blah, blah, blah.

Spare us. And spare us the European Fighter Aircraft, too, now on schedule to be bravely pushed on with until its final abandonment, years hence, amid myriad recriminations and post-mortems over the billions spent to no purpose.

And spare us the coming industrial conflict with the Prison Officers' Association, which will be won with the help of the police, whom Michael Howard is just about to buy off. The conflict with the police has been postponed to Act II.

Meanwhile we have the Budget story, and the economy story. The economy story was written in about 1960. We have a slump, then we do various things to cause a recovery, but they in their turn cause inflation and a balance of payments crisis, the ending of which causes another slump.

It must be obvious to the meanly intelligent that this rake's progress arises from the fact that Britain is not really paying her way, probably because we're not much good at anything except dodgy financial services and royal pageantry. It's all just a slow and undignified downhill slither, but ministers have to keep coming to the dispatch box to assure us of the contrary, and each month's trade figures have to emerge as "news".

Sometimes I feel like a sports commentator reporting on a spider trying to get out of a bath, and commenting on each sally up a new slope — "and he's taking a run at it... and — yes! — he's a whole half inch further up the side than the last attempt..." But you know that every slope ends in the vertical.

Oh — and the Budget. We shall have rumours of tax increases, and denials, and threats, and promises, and a ruckus at the Tory conference. And in the end Kenneth Clarke will not increase tax rates because Tories just don't, silly! but find sneaky ways of raising a few extra billions, by monkeying around with thresholds or something, and... oh, it's too tedious.

And Goldilocks ran and ran and ran, all the way home!

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The Scott enquiry on arms to Iraq is rightly making Whitehall sweat, says Peter Riddell

## Loose cannon in the weapons trade

Do not mention Lord Justice Scott's name too loudly in Whitehall. Senior ministers, ex-ministers and civil servants alike are increasingly irritated by, and worried about, the Scott enquiry into arms sales to Iraq. Doesn't he understand how Whitehall works? Why does he ask such unrealistic questions? Why on earth did the Lord Chancellor recommend him? These are among the complaints volunteered by ministers apprehensive that the enquiry could become a serious embarrassment to the government.

The Scott enquiry has turned into a full-scale investigation of how decisions are taken, focusing on what civil servants, as well as ministers, have said and done. Even the normally imperturbable Sir Robin Butler, the cabinet secretary, is reported to be unusually ruffled, as Jeeves would have said. The enquiry has so far attracted little public attention, but that is likely to change following the resumption of public hearings today. Several leading politicians are due to give evidence, including Labour leader "triumphs" and we all trot out the predictable metaphors about the hare and the tortoise, slow and steady wins the race, softly-softly-catchee-monkeye, blah, blah, blah.

Judicial enquiries are supposed to be safe and predictable. Above all, they are expected to understand the real world in which politicians and civil servants operate. Specific failures which led to the enquiry being set up are identified, and recommendations about improvements made. But the report concludes that everyone in power

behaved with the best of intentions. That approach was epitomised by the three great figures of postwar enquiries, Lords Plowden, Radcliffe and Franks, the dependable chairmen called upon by governments of both parties in a crisis. In his exemplary biography of Franks, *Founding Father*, Alex Danchev notes the approach used in the Falklands enquiry 11 years ago.

The Franks committee "followed three self-imposed injunctions: to avoid the exercise of hindsight, to determine what was reasonable in the light of the circumstances prevailing at the time, and to allow for the fact that those involved were not dealing exclusively with the Falklands." This "reasonable man" approach was criticised at the time by Correll Barnett, in a letter to *The Times*: "If you examine people's actions according to their own lights you are bound to exonerate them." Professor Danchev, in turn, asks how else the enquiry could have proceeded.

Lord Justice Scott has, however, been less "reasonable". He has not been instinctively "understanding" but has behaved like an investigative journalist — not a compliment in the

### SCOTT ON SCOTT

language of Whitehall. He and his team have burrowed away, asking officials about apparent breaches of declared policies. This has provoked complaints that the judge does not understand either the political context of the mid-to-late 1980s when the decisions were taken, or the way Whitehall works.

Sir David Miers, former head of the Foreign Office Middle East department and now ambassador to The Netherlands, challenged the enquiry's approach when giving evidence. "You have a misunderstanding about the volume of work and the priorities, how the system works. We were trying to sell things rather than stop them, and this was being carried out at the highest level."

Ministers and ex-ministers are now making similar complaints as they answer a sizeable list of written questions before giving oral evidence. "It's a bit like doing an exam again," one said.

Their complaint is that they are being asked not big questions about why they continued a particular

policy or relaxed it, but highly detailed questions about their response to particular advice by officials. A few words scribbled on the margin of a submission are treated by the enquiry as of monumental importance, when they were probably among a dozen or more such long-forgotten comments written late at night. Most ministers cannot remember advice given on a particular issue weeks, let alone years, ago.

These protests are not just special pleading. There is always a danger in such enquiries of failing to put the issue in context and of losing proportion. But that in no way excuses the damning evidence at the enquiry and earlier that ministers deliberately connived to mislead Parliament and the public.

These hypocrisies were exposed by Alan Clark's candid evidence which led to the collapse of the Matrix Churchill trial last November and triggered the establishment of the Scott enquiry. Mr Clark was clear that Britain should seek to maximise exports to Iraq, which we favoured against Iran, despite guidelines on arms sales which he regarded as tiresome and intrusive after all

France and Germany were doing the same. So he advised machine-tool companies about how they should frame their export applications. Mr Clark's desire to bend the controls was different only in degree from the approach elsewhere in Whitehall.

Ministers and civil servants pretended that strict guidelines against sales which would escalate the Iran-Iraq war were being maintained even though MI6 warned officials that equipment used for military purposes was reaching Iraq, partly through Jordan. When the guidelines were relaxed in 1988 after the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, ministers said there had been no change in policy, partly on the grounds that it would be "too cynical" to announce a change when the Foreign Office was receiving thousands of protests about Iraqi attacks on the Kurds.

Even if you take a robustly realist view, the government is still in the wrong for its dishonesty. It may have been justifiable to have allowed arms sales to Iraq for political and employment reasons. But to pretend otherwise led not just to ministers issuing public relations immunity certificates to conceal evidence at the Matrix Churchill trial but also to the type of civil service evasion revealed at the Scott enquiry.

The Scott enquiry has raised questions not merely about arms sales to Iraq, but more fundamentally, about how politicians and civil servants take decisions in secret. Lord Justice Scott is not prepared to accept the conventions of Whitehall behaviour at face value. That is why its residents are so alarmed.

## Marked for life by the whip

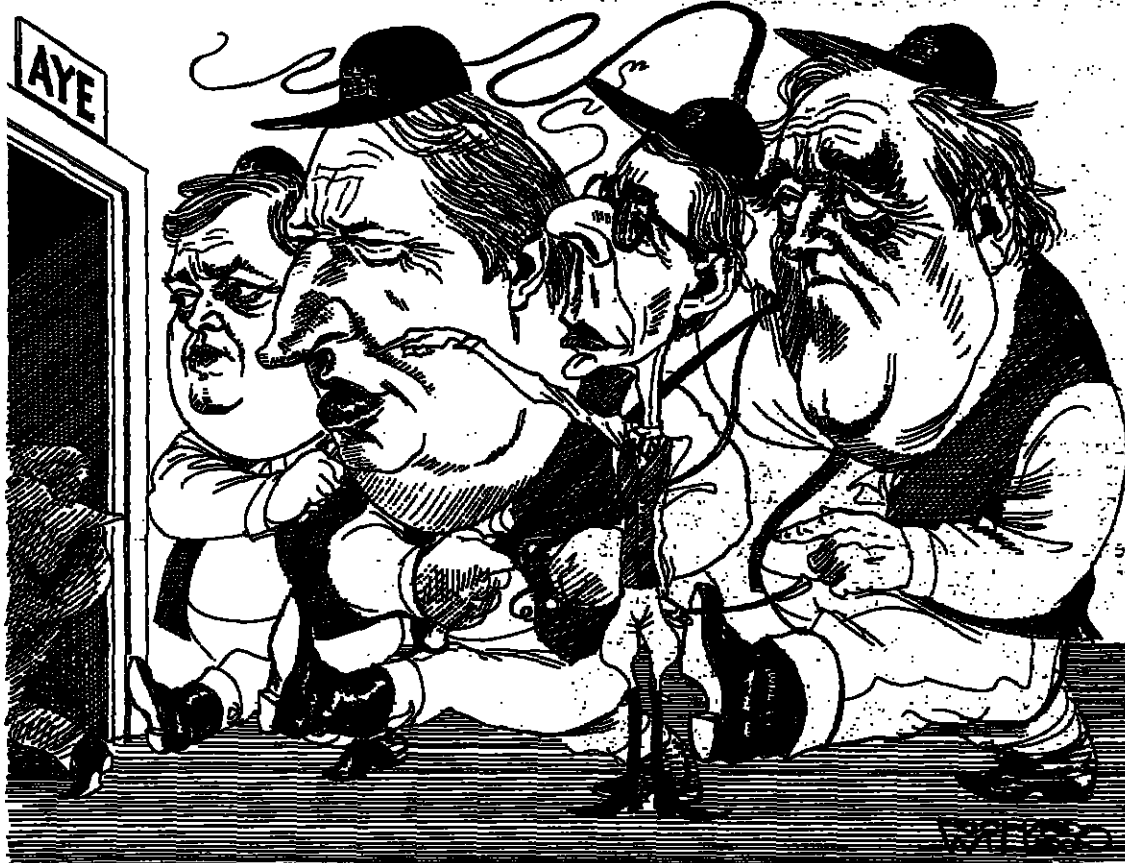
Politicians who have learnt early to put party before country should not be trusted with high office

I know next to nothing about hunting. The only time I ever rode a horse — though in my childhood I rode donkeys on the sands at Weston-super-Mare — was to visit Petra, the "rose-red city half as old as time". In attempting to dismount I put my right leg across as though getting off a bicycle and found myself with my left foot in the stirrup, facing backwards towards the horse's tail. I still find it hard to envisage how one is supposed to dismount from a horse.

Nevertheless, hunting has now entered our political life in the West Country, and I suspect it has entered national politics as well. In Somerset, the new Liberal Democrat majority on the county council has decided to forbid stag hunting across a strip of land which the council owns. This has outraged the hunting people, farmers who voted Liberal because of set-aside, or for some such reason, are now saying that the Liberals are a bunch of suburban do-gooders who should never have been elected in the first place.

In Gloucestershire there has been a prosecution of the Master of the Beaufort Hunt because the hunt stopped badgers' sets with rubble rather than clay; the National Trust seems to have withdrawn permission for the hunt to cross some of its land. The committee of the National Trust is also now suspected of containing suburban do-gooders. Liberals and other such undesirable persons.

This is probably good news for the Conservatives, who are regaining support from field sports. There is only one incongruity about it. The Beaufort Hunt's dress is a blue coat with buff facings, the traditional colours of the Whig party, the very colours in which Charles James Fox kissed duchesses and campaigned for election. The Whigs were the ancestors of the Liberal party. They used to sing "So hurrah for the old buff and blue" over their victory punchbowl:



### William Rees-Mogg

These are merely my own rather literary ideas of the functions of these hunt servants, formed from reading novels. The huntmen also have to protect the hunt from saboteurs, in which they have my full sympathy.

From these useful but subordinate people, the whips in Parliament take their name, and they too are useful so long as they remain subordinate. In the good old days, they used to behave like proper hunt servants. They took their orders from the master, who was the prime minister. They saw to it that members of Parliament turned up to vote for government measures. They told the prime minister of traps which were being laid by the other side. They were not allowed to speak. The proper business of Parliament was reserved for ministers who spent

their time dealing with public policy as the whips did with votes.

In those days, no parliamentary whip could expect more than the most modest advancement. When I was briefly a lobby correspondent, in the 1950s, Patrick Buchanan-Hepburn was the Conservative Chief Whip. He was a large, rather impressive figure, something of a matriarchal. When he retired, he was "made" minister of works, which was thought a suitable reward for the long hours spent in his subordinate and silent office. Nobody would have dreamt of consulting him about a serious issue of policy, which was reserved for his betters, such as Churchill, Eden and Macmillan.

It is not so nowadays. Ambitious politicians are almost expected to go through the Whips' Office as a preparation for higher things. Even Kenneth Clarke, of all people, has been a whip, though how they kept him quiet I cannot think. The man who made the breakthrough into the highest office was Ted Heath. Before him nobody, so far as I can trace, had risen from being a whip to leading a major party. Since his time the Conservative party has been domi-

nated by ex-whips, including Lord Whitelaw — a former Chief Whip — and John Major himself.

The older tradition was the sounder. This can be illustrated by a telling incident in the House of Lords debate on the Maastricht referendum. At least two former Chief Whips took part. Lord Whitelaw and Lord Glenamara, who, as Ted Short, was Labour Chief Whip in the Commons. Lord Glenamara announced that he was going to vote against a Labour three-line whip, and for the referendum, because his conscience told him to do so. I was watching Lord Whitelaw's ever-mobile face. A spasm of disgust and outrage passed across it at the thought of a former Chief Whip behaving in such a way: a whip with a political conscience — whatever next?

Whips are employed not to make policy, but to enforce it. Theirs not to reason why; theirs but to win the vote. They do not have to believe in the merits of the policies it is their professional task to have carried. Lord Hesketh is now said to be resigning as Chief Whip in the Lords, but he put through the Maastricht bill against his better judgment. Such an attitude ought not to penetrate the cabinet room; there it is essential that policies be thought through and fought through on their merits. Once a man thinks like a whip, he can with difficulty rid himself of that malformation of the intellect. He can come to think that it is a shocking thing, a very shocking thing, for someone who has been a whip to put country before party.

Whips ought to know their place in Parliament. It is below the salt; it is outside the cabinet door. The old self-denying ordinance that they do not go on to higher office should be restored and rigorously enforced on new entrants.

Fortunately there is an easy way for the Conservative party to set the matter right. The Whips' Office is a chauvinist place, worse than a Merseyside police station. The Conservatives have never had a woman whip — perhaps the Labour party has not either. If the Conservatives wish in future to avoid having whips as leaders, they only have to elect women leaders. Teresa Gorman has never been a whip, nor has Gillian Shephard, nor has Virginia Bottomley. They have been spared that professional deformation. I also doubt if they have ever stopped a badger's set.

## Rolling Tusa

THE irony will not be lost on John Tusa. While John Birt's personal assistant is allowed to double as company secretary of an independent television company, Tusa, the former head of the World Service, faces the axe from his job as presenter of *The One O'Clock News* because he is chairman of London News Radio, which is to replace LBC next year.

The BBC feels LNR, which will broadcast rolling news on one of its two frequencies, is a rival and, according to BBC Staff Instruction 41, "Staff may not advise, work for or hold a directorship in a company... if it is engaged in broadcasting... which is held to be competitive with any BBC activity". Tony Hall, managing director of BBC news and current affairs, is deciding whether Tusa should stay.

According to the corporation, a decision will be made in the next few weeks.

If Tusa is forced out it will be a cruel blow for a man once tipped, but never interviewed, for the director-generalship. A

former senior BBC figure says: "John is so respected and well known that it would be churlish to sack him. And besides, he could be good for the profile of both the BBC and LNR."

Others point out that potential conflicts are allowed elsewhere. David Frost, for example, hosts *Breakfast with Frost* on BBC on Sunday mornings and produces *The Frost Programme* on Thursdays on ITV, in direct competition to BBC's *Question Time*.

Tusa, oddly, insists there is "no problem. I can assure you, it ain't true. As far as I am concerned I will continue with the BBC."

John Patten is obviously feeling better. No doubt anxious to shed his reputation for ducking controversial gatherings, the education secretary is attending no fewer than four fringe meetings at next month's Tory conference. Despite a conspicuous absence at the NUT's meeting, he will be discussing grant-maintained schools, education reform,

special curriculums and, wait for it, language and literacy.

### Union sell-out

AS delegates to the Trades Union Congress reflect on their war-torn conference last week, they will no doubt be intrigued to hear the fate of a more ancient battleground, the former headquarters of Acas in St James's Square. The 40,000 sq ft mansion has been sold for £5 million to a Middle East buyer and will be turned into a private palace.

Up to £10 million will be spent on the 18th-century, 77-room building, which lingers sentimentally in the memory

of the conciliation service employees who spent their time there sweet-talking the likes of Arthur Scargill and the National Coal Board. "People loved that building. It was so big and grand," says a spokesman. Well, the TUC was pretty big in those days too.

Shooting star

ALL THOSE who can remember where they were on November 22, 1963, might take a passing interest in an adult education course which starts at the end of this month in Hove. Brighton College of Technology claims to be offering Britain's first course on the Kennedy assassination.

The 20-week course is being run by Gary Chonoma, who admits to being obsessed by the event, has a social science degree and works for the In-



## DIARY

land Revenue. "It's something we should all be interested in because I don't think the full facts have come out," he says.

Chonoma will take his students through seven theories, and plans a special lecture for the 30th anniversary. "The trouble is that the course lessons take place on a Saturday and the anniversary is on a Monday," he says. "But we'll manage something."

### First man in

THIS calls for the capacious Getty chequebook. Next month Phillips is auctioning a complete set of *Wisden Cricketers' Almanack*, from 1864 to 1993, as a single lot estimated to achieve £25-30,000. The cricket-mad John Paul Getty, *Wisden's* owner, does not have a complete set and may, says *Wisden Cricket Monthly's* edi-

tor David Frith, be tempted to offer a "steady investment" suitable for his proprietor, who "is a shrewd man. He gets a buzz out of achieving something at its market value or less."

### Lost for words

BAD news for language scholars looking forward to completion of the British National Corpus next spring. Reed International has refused to allow its texts to be used free, cutting out such writers as Graham Greene and Evelyn Waugh.

Oxford University Press, which is leading the DTL-backed consortium compiling the corpus, says it will provide an academic database of 100 million words and is not a commercial venture.

This cuts little ice with Reed's chief executive Richard Charkin. He says: "We said yes, subject to payment of a reasonable fee to cover administration costs and copyright fees. Anyway, you do not need big authors for a corpus. You hardly need Graham Greene to get the meaning of the word 'and'."

### Anybody here seen Carey?

THEY don't come much busier than the Archbishop of Canterbury. In *The Church Herald*, a book on the Church of England, published this month, Yasmina Manton describes how it took a year not to fix an interview with George Carey. Her first letter went out last April. She heard nothing because "Lambeth Palace lost it. I sent a photocopy and was invited to see the press secretary, Lesley Perry, in June. She said I might be able to see the archbishop in November if there were a cancellation." Perry then put Manton Graham on the Lambeth Palace mailing list, which Manton Graham admits "did not bring the man to life". When the Bishop of Edinburgh wrote on Manton Graham's behalf, Perry replied, asking what questions she wanted to ask. Manton Graham replied in early December and in mid-January got her letter saying that with his present diary pressures "he would not have time to do my request



justice. At the end of January she rang up to convey the archbishop's humble apologies and to ask if I would like a transcript of his Lent article on prayer." As *Archbishops go, wow*, incidentally, is a much better bet. Although his diary was officially "done" for 1993, he saw her for an hour within days.





## OFF THE RAILS

The government should think again about rail privatisation

John MacGregor, the transport secretary, was being economical with the truth when he said yesterday that the planned cutbacks in British Rail services had "absolutely nothing to do with privatisation". It is certainly true, as Mr MacGregor said, that BR's timetables are decided by its own managers and that the main pressure to cut services has come not from the prospect of privatisation, but from the decline in revenues due to recession. But, in presenting the whole truth, the damage done by privatisation must also be acknowledged.

British Rail has experienced managerial costs and upheavals to prepare for privatisation. But many of these changes would have been worthwhile in any case. The real trouble lies in the way that the ideological commitment to rapid privatisation has distracted attention from more important and urgent issues of public transport policy and financing. If these are mishandled, as appears all too likely, Britain's railway system could be irreparably damaged and the many achievements of privatisation in other industries could be given a bad name.

Specifically, rail privatisation will not lift from ministers the burden of answering two controversial questions. How big a railway should Britain have? And how should the costs of maintaining and improving this railway be split between the fares paid by today's passengers, the subsidies offered by taxpayers, and the borrowings which future users of the rail network can reasonably be required to repay?

If the railways are to continue receiving subsidies to keep open uncommercial lines and stations, the level of these subsidies and the minimum standards of service they buy, must be fully debated before privatisation, not left as an afterthought for annual public expenditure rounds and franchise negotiations. If railway services are to be reduced or lines closed, the government must explain how these decisions will be taken, and how they will relate to the levels of Treasury

support. Ministers must also admit that rail and roads policies are intimately connected — the more people use cars, the bigger the subsidies needed to keep rail services going.

Finally, they must recognise the lacuna in the franchising plan which has caused most anxiety among potential private investors. If tracks, stations and signals remain publicly owned by Railtrack, will they be threatened by chronic underinvestment? The British Treasury, uniquely among European finance ministries, treats the investments and borrowings of public-sector commercial bodies like BR and Railtrack exactly as if they were non-productive government spending. This perverse convention, which the mandarins doggedly defend, suggests that the railways will probably miss out on the single biggest benefit of past privatisations — the removal of arbitrary Treasury constraints on capital investment.

Because of a Lords amendment, which would allow British Rail to compete, against the government's will, for the services to be franchised, Mr MacGregor now has an opportunity to think again about rail privatisation. Last week, in a speech to the CBI, he admitted that rail would be quite unlike any previous privatisation. He called it a "third generation privatisation", in contrast to the "first generation" disposal of ordinary businesses like British Gas, and the "second generation" sell-off of profitable public utilities, like BT and British Gas.

Mr MacGregor was right to acknowledge the distinction. He should now draw the logical conclusions. He should go back to the drawing board and produce a white paper to put his railway plans in the context of a wider review of transport policy and public sector financing. Until the government addresses these issues, and persuades the Treasury to think more clearly about public investment and borrowing, the commitment to rail privatisation will do more harm than good — not only to Conservative politics, but also to transport economics.

## HARD WINTER AHEAD

Russia is disillusioned and exhausted — and so is Boris Yeltsin

Seen from afar, politics in Russia present a sorry spectacle. President Yeltsin has failed to use the mandate of April's referendum to sweep away the restrictive Soviet constitution or break the grip of the parliament. Aleksandr Rutskoi, Mr Yeltsin's nemesis, has failed to do anything more than stall government decrees in parliament and filibuster plans for economic and political reform. Instead both sides have resorted to smear tactics, accusing each other's protégés of corruption amid ever more bizarre conspiracy theories. Public support for democratic reform ebbs away as respect for political institutions dwindles. Crime and street gangsterism soar, the mafia gets rich and the gap between rich and poor reaches pre-revolutionary proportions.

The shabbiness, exhaustion and disillusion of daily life weigh upon Russia like stifling narcotics. Reform sputters along, but its advocates are losing their enthusiasm, its opponents counting on traditional Russian lethargy. The restless provinces pay less and less attention to the bickering Kremlin. The struggle for power diminishes the authority of all, and Russia has virtually ceased to play any world role.

Yet the more apocalyptic forecasts are probably misplaced. Russia has a long history of muddling through, putting up with a level of corruption, anarchy and inefficiency which Western societies could not tolerate. Industrial production is falling, inflation is rampant, standards of health, housing, social security and public safety are those of a third world country. But there have been a few achievements, too.

The fissiparous momentum of the regions and autonomous republics appears to have been halted; many are now looking for greater mutual cooperation. Mr Yeltsin's

government has had some success in quelling the wars along its southern flank: Russia has arbitrated a fragile peace in Georgia, Moldavia and Tajikistan, and has taken the sting out of the nationalist movements in Azerbaijan and central Asia. For two months the rouble has held its value against the dollar; ironically, Russia's typically bungled invalidation of its old currency has forced the republics to accept the discipline of its central bank.

Russia can also, perhaps, take heart in seeing how much worse things are elsewhere. The political vacuum in Ukraine, coupled with hyperinflation, an unfocused nationalism and a dangerous level of social discontent, is a damning indictment of that country's half-hearted experiments with reform. The solemn weekend commemoration of the Ukrainians who perished in Stalin's famine may take on overtones of lament for an independence that proved unworkable. By the sorry standards of the disintegration that has befallen all parts of the former Soviet Union, Russia is managing better than many.

Nevertheless, Russian reform has stalled. The codification of the new freedoms has hardly begun. The concept of privatisation, as one cynic remarked, is that property belongs to whoever happens to be standing closest to it. Too much depends still on the personal authority of Mr Yeltsin, and his stature, as well as his health, are increasingly questioned. He has survived many attempts to undercut his authority, and is apparently again preparing a tactical truce with his opponents in order to get the budget through. But he appears weary of his job. He now exudes the aura of a transient politician, another sad, lonely figure like Gorbachev, his time drawing to a close.

## MATTERS OF THE MIND

Autistic prodigies may have lessons for us all

The artistic talents of the autistic teenager Stephen Wiltshire have done much to encourage public interest in the condition which he shares with 80,000 people in this country. Mr Wiltshire, now 19, was mute for many years and is still socially withdrawn; yet his brilliance as an architectural draughtsman has now been matched by a previously unsuspected musical gift, which enables him to analyse instantly the chord structures of a piece of music.

Because there appears to be only one other case in medical history of an autistic savant with two talents, Mr Wiltshire's progress is bound to attract worldwide attention. It is important, therefore, that his abilities are put in context. Though many autistic people have agile memories or counting skills, most are not artistic geniuses and many are never properly diagnosed. Even those who do have creative talents still face enormous difficulties leading an ordinary life. Sympathy should not depend upon their ability to draw a Wren cathedral or dissect a Schubert lied.

The talents of savants deserve study because of the lessons they may teach us about human creativity and consciousness. The work of Oliver Sacks, whose book *Awakenings* popularised the field of neuropsychology, has shown how neurological dysfunctions such as autism or aphasia can liberate hidden aptitudes. Amongst his most

remarkable cases was a pair of seriously handicapped twins who were incapable of simple addition but amused each other by reciting off 12-digit prime numbers. Their ability to derive these figures apparently had nothing to do with ordinary arithmetic but reflected a private understanding of the harmonies between numbers.

Such evidence reveals tantalising chinks in twentieth century orthodoxies about the workings of the mind. In the first place, this area of research challenges the idea pioneered by Noam Chomsky that language is the defining feature of the human species; on the contrary, poor linguistic faculties may release prodigious talents which might otherwise have remained hidden.

More importantly, Sacks's clinical work has led to speculation that mathematics, aesthetics and music can be perceived not only as logical systems, comprehensible through rational deduction, but as "landscapes" which the mind can survey instantly. This is precisely what savants such as Mr Wiltshire appear to do, understanding chords, architectural harmonies and the properties of numbers through profound intuition rather than systematic training. Such skills naturally astonish us; but they should also command humility, as proof that we have barely begun to unravel the mysteries of the human mind.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

### State of Conservative party finances

From Sir Norman Fowler, Chairman of the Conservative Party

Sir, *The Times* really cannot have it both ways. Your leader of September 9, "The cry of mutiny", both deplores the financial position of the Conservative party and criticises the measures which are being taken to put it right.

Perhaps I could set out the facts. By March 1991 the party's cumulative deficit had already reached £11.8 million. The preparations for the general election resulted in a further annual deficit in 1991-2 of £5.5 million, so that in April 1992 the cumulative deficit had reached £17.3 million.

During the last 18 months we have made substantial progress towards putting the party's finances on a more stable footing. As a result the annual deficit for 1992-3 was cut to £1.8 million and we are budgeting this year to break even.

This has been achieved both by fund-raising and by cutting spending. It is frankly ludicrous to suggest that the London headquarters is "profligate" when Central Office spending has been cut to the lowest level in real terms since 1979. Immediately after the election the party employed nearly 400 people centrally; today we employ 240, a drop of 40 per cent.

It is also strange for you to claim that I have shut down "regional offices across the country". Of course, our economics in spending have affected the party's area offices. For example, we now have one regional office for the Midlands whereas previously we had two area offices a short distance away from each other.

Such action was necessary to put the party back on to a sound financial basis. Our members have the right to expect that action of that kind would be taken.

On a more personal level, may I say that it is slightly curious to criticise me for not listening to the constituencies when I am in the midst of a series of meetings with constituency association chairmen up and down the country. In the last ten days I have already spoken to over 175 chairmen or their deputies and have travelled from the North West to Yorkshire, from the East Midlands to East Anglia, and to the West Country.

There is no question that the party in the country is concerned about the political events of the last 12 months. But the overwhelming mood I have

found is of determination to put past difficulties and divisions behind us, and to concentrate on recovery in the coming months. That is precisely what we intend to do.

Yours faithfully,  
NORMAN FOWLER  
Conservative Central Office,  
32 Smith Square, Westminster, SW1.  
September 10.

From Mr Stanley Alexander

Sir, Your leader, "The cry of mutiny", and the report on the same day, "Major goes undercover to raise party spirits", are part of your continuing campaign against the Conservative party, and the prime minister in particular. Of course everybody is concerned about the current situation, but the picture is not as dark as you portray it.

I attended the meeting in Surrey on September 8. The prime minister was straightforward, cheerful and positive about the way ahead. He clearly relished the face-to-face contact, and the direct exchange of views. He promised that this dialogue would continue and be extended to include senior ministers and party leaders.

This is to be welcomed, along with any other ways in which there can be wider direct contact, moving away from contrived set-piece speeches and individual television interviews or confrontations. We must build on this encouraging initiative.

Yours faithfully,  
STANLEY ALEXANDER  
(Deputy Chairman, Chertsey and Walton Conservative Association),  
19 Templemore, Oaklands Drive,  
Weybridge, Surrey.  
September 9.

From Mr Paul A. Peters

Sir, One can only surmise that Mr Michael Pinhorn, chairman of the Isle of Wight Conservative Association, has erred in his simile (report, September 9). "I would tell him to carry on with a Geoffrey Boycott innings" implies that the prime minister should replace (or should one say run out?) many of the Cabinet, as Geoffrey Boycott was so fond of doing to his partners.

Yours faithfully,  
PAUL A. PETERS,  
22 Badric Court,  
Yelverton Road, SW11.

### Drinking sensibly

From Dr John Rae

Sir, Ian Robertson's clear account of the need for restraint in alcohol consumption ("Better make that a half", September 9) begs the question why we are not more successful in persuading the risky and heavy drinkers to cut down.

The great majority drink below those levels that are regarded as "sensible" (not "safe" as Dr Robertson suggests because there are situations, such as driving, when no level of alcohol is safe). Nor is Britain a heavy-drinking society; we do not even make the top 20 of alcohol-consuming countries.

But we still fail to get across a sensible drinking message to a significant minority. I believe there are five reasons.

1. The health and education departments both have responsibility for health education but as far as I am aware they seldom talk to one another on the subject.

2. Health education is run by doctors, but their job is to tell us the medical

facts. Putting the facts across is a job for educators and communicators.

3. The Health Education Authority's alcohol programme has a budget of £1.2 million a year, but Alcohol Concern (also funded by the taxpayer) receives five times that figure to provide treatment for those who ignore the HEA's advice.

4. Heavy drinkers are encouraged to ignore advice because it is too often accompanied by exaggerated doom and gloom.

5. The problem for the alcohol industry is more complex than deterring drink-drivers and drunken louts. A comparatively small number of drinkers account for a large proportion of the alcohol drunk.

It would make commercial as well as moral sense for the industry to plan how it can remain profitable while helping the government to reduce the number of heavy drinkers.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN RAE (Director),  
The Portman Group,  
22 Wimpole Street, W1.  
September 9.

### Drugs in prisons

From Lord Goodman

Sir, At a time when prison discipline is so much in the news, may I point out that a great number (possibly half) of all prison inmates of the present day have severe and long-standing problems, either with drugs or alcohol or both. It has also been calculated that 80 per cent of all cases heard before London magistrates relate to drink or drugs.

The only pilot scheme specially designed to deal with these two problems is at HM Prison Downview in Sutton, Surrey, run by the Addictive Diseases

Trust. In contrast with this country, the USA has been conducting programmes designed to deal with these problems for 12 years or more.

There is a great need for more such programmes, and these can only be established with substantial financial support from the government. The cost of such corrective schemes would, even in the short run, more than repay itself.

Yours truly,  
GOODMAN  
(Patron),  
The Addictive Diseases Trust,  
14-16 Bressenden Place, SW1.  
September 9.

### Good ideas

From the Director and General Manager of the Royal Mail

Sir, I agree with David Thomas (letter, September 3) that self-adhesive stamps and left-hand-drive delivery vehicles are worthy ideas to explore. That's why we are carrying out trials on both.

Self-adhesive stamps will go on sale from October 19, with a trial launch in the Tyne Tees Television area. They will also be available to stamp collectors from the British Philatelic Bureau in Edinburgh and the national network of philatelic outlets. The books will contain 20 first-class stamps.

In waiting until now, Royal Mail has learnt from the experiences of other countries and produced a self-adhesive stamp which is a world first.

Our stamps have die-cut simulated perforations, including ellipses and phosphor bars that match exactly those of conventional stamps, which means they will be as difficult to copy, whereas other countries have only been able to manage straight or wavy-

line edges. Whilst the new stamps offer improved hygiene, and ease of application, the production costs are currently higher than the printing of traditional stamps.

As to left-hand-drive vehicles, this is just one of many features we are testing to improve the efficiency of our fleet and the safety of our employees.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN TEW,  
Director and General Manager,  
Royal Mail,  
76 Turnmill Street, EC1.  
September 7.

From Captain Peter Farrand

Sir, Rather than waste its vast profit on self-adhesive stamps, the Royal Mail could consider the introduction of stamp-vending machines, which give change for one's 50p or £1 pieces instead of providing useless 1p or 2p stamps.

Yours aye,  
PETER FARRAND,  
17 Maple Road, Bramhall,  
Stockport, Greater Manchester.  
September 3.

### Phone masts threaten hilltop beauty

From the President of the Council for Scottish Archaeology

Sir, Public outcry has at least temporarily halted work on the erection of a telecommunications mast on Cairnpapple Hill near Linlithgow in West Lothian. This is one of the most important prehistoric archaeological sites in state care on the Scottish mainland. It is not surprising, therefore, that local people and archaeological bodies, including my own, should be highly concerned about any construction work which might affect it or its immediate environs.

It is to be hoped that a more suitable location can be agreed, if indeed a second such mast needs to be erected on the hill at all.

But this high-profile example raises a wider issue, which is particularly relevant at this time, given the current attempted expansion of the mobile telephone industry. Once licensed by the Department of Trade and Industry, telecommunications companies

may erect similar masts wherever they choose, provided that they have the permission of the landowner and that the masts do not exceed 15m in height. The licensee need only notify the local planning authority: no planning permission is necessary.

This "permitted development" presents a widespread potential threat to not only archaeological sites, of which many of our best preserved examples are located on hilltops, but also to one of the fundamental attractions of our upland landscape, its scenic beauty.

Is this to be another example of the pleasure and enjoyment of the many being sacrificed to the untrammelled provision of services which are of benefit only to relatively few?

Yours faithfully,  
W. S. HANSON, President,  
Council for Scottish Archaeology,  
c/o Royal Museum of Scotland,  
York Buildings, 1 Queen Street,  
Edinburgh 2.  
September 10.

### Exam league tables

From the Secretary of the Headmasters' Conference

Sir, A number of colleagues have asked me to express our concern about the way in which *The Times* excluded A-level results from its league table (August 28). While it can be maintained that universities count only the best three A levels, this is in order to decide on their offers and I do not see how *The Times* could have ascertained this from the information provided.

Since the purpose of your league table is presumably to demonstrate what pupils at different schools achieve, it seems inappropriate to be selective about the academic qualifications recorded. Given that the government has promoted AS levels as a means of broadening the sixth-form curriculum, I am surprised at such an unexpected repudiation of them by *The Times*.

Moreover, pupils following the government-recommended package of two A levels and two AS levels have one third of their achievement disregarded by this approach. At schools where pupils sit AS levels in addition to their A levels they have had to follow a more demanding course than those taking just A levels and their achievement should be recognised.

Yours faithfully,  
V. S. ANTHONY,  
Secretary,  
Headmasters' Conference,  
130 Regent Road, Leicester.  
September 3.

From Mr Richard Morgan

Sir, A-level results are important, as all candidates, their parents and schools know. But their importance can be exaggerated by the league tables. The fact that one set of results can produce so many different orders in different newspapers should make anyone wary.

Last year I interviewed two can-

didates for a post. Both had A levels that would have done credit to any league table, both had excellent degrees, both were set to gain their doctorates. Both were exceedingly dull. I hope they have gained employment elsewhere but cannot be optimistic.

The key question facing the schools is whether we can help our pupils to lead fulfilled adult lives. For the majority, that will almost certainly mean gaining a good job in an increasingly international job market.

And this means looking after the wholeness of every person and will include the development of qualities such as vitality and motivation as well as skills such as language and technology.

A levels may tell but half the story, if that.

Yours sincerely,  
RICHARD MORGAN  
(Warden),  
Radley College,  
Abingdon, Oxfordshire.  
September 1.

From Mr Roger Taylor

Sir, As the parent of a child approaching secondary school age, I was very interested by your league tables of schools' GCSE and A-level results.

However, one vital calculation seems to have been missed. Nowhere do you relate the grades gained to the fees payable to establish a "value for money" index. For example, St Paul's School for Girls, which came top of your GCSE table, has some of the highest day school fees in the UK. Does it offer value for money, or is this merely success at any price?

Could somebody please undertake the necessary calculation to establish where I can find the most cost-effective private education?

Yours sincerely,  
ROGER TAYLOR,  
52 Westbourne Park Road, W2.  
September 8.

### Well brought up

From Miss Anne Harper

Sir, I am bemused that the introduction of a male "au pair" is thought to be an issue ("Male au pair blazes trail in Fulham", September 2).

Those of us who remember the delight of childhood in West Africa in the 1950s will remember how much we owed to the "smallboy" who cared for our quarters, washed our clothes, and kept us out of the cook's way.

Kofi played endless games in the dust with me and my smaller brother growing up in the then Gold Coast. He helped us to graduate from mudpies to the sophistication of our own built mudhuts, showed us how to bury an antelope head in an anthill so that the skull would be picked clean, protected me from the giant land-snails that terrified me, and once killed a snake.

African women and girls, by contrast, were strange and unknowable, never part of our lives.

Yours faithfully,  
ANNE HARPER,  
5 Randolph Place,  
Edinburgh 3.  
September 2.

### Our kind of town

From Mr Robert Christie

Sir, Llanwrtyd Wells is no "upstart" as readers of John Young's article on Fordwich (August 31) might infer. The oldest of our churches was founded by the disciples of St David around 1,400 years ago. Our name, like that of Fordwich, means a settlement on a ford, and analysis of the register of electors indicates a registered population of 249 permanently resident within the urban area, a figure so close to that of Fordwich (letter, August 25) as to make the two communities virtually twins.

But Llanwrtyd's claim to be the smallest town in Britain, now that any former parish can call itself a town, rests also on its having been a self-governing urban district continuously until 1974, and on not (like Fordwich) being merely part of a city.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT CHRISTIE (Clerk),  
Llanwrtyd Wells Town Council,  
Brondery, Llanwrtyd Road,  
Llanwrtyd Wells, Powys.

### Sex education

From Mrs Annabel Kanabus

Sir, Fiona Bolton (Education Viewpoint, September 6) suggests that the recent changes to school sex education resulting from the Education Act 1993 will cause young people to have less sex education at school.

But although the subjects of Aids and other sexually transmitted diseases are to be removed from the national curriculum, they will still be part of the compulsory curriculum in every school.

They are not being removed from the curriculum but rather moved from one compulsory part to another. Instead of being part of science in the national curriculum they will be part of the new subject of sex education.

The Education Act also requires that the "biological aspects of human sexual behaviour" remain as part of science. Should not sex education also include such topics as individual responsibility and decision-making, the importance of relationships, and other moral and social issues?

The Education Act provides great opportunities for improved sex education for the vast majority of young people.

Yours faithfully,  
ANNABEL KANABUS  
(Director),  
Aids Education & Research Trust,  
11-13 Denne Parade,  
Horsham, West Sussex.  
September 6.

### No hiding place

From Mr Toby Beresford

Sir, Our world is getting smaller... I recently visited an impoverished village in the hills of East Java to find, amongst avon plaques and paddy fields, a young boy playing with a Nintendo Gameboy.

Yours observantly,  
TOBY BERESFORD,  
The Gerards, London Road,  
Harrow on the Hill, Middlesex.  
September 6.

Business letters, page 38

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

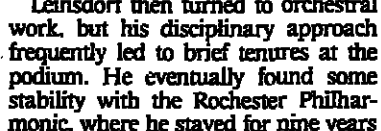






**MAJOR-GENERAL  
RICHARD JERRAM**

Leinsdorf's professional debut was made as a pianist in a performance of



Erich Leinsdorf's first marriage ended in divorce. He is survived by three sons and two daughters of that marriage, and by Vera, his second wife.

Richard Jerram was born in India, where his father was stationed with an armoured car squadron at Bangalore.

Forces (UKLF) until 1979. After two years as a brigadier in the logistics secretariat at the MoD between 1979 and 1981 he was promoted major-

A bachelor for most of his life, though perhaps needing the attentions of a wife more than most men, he married six years ago a widow, Mrs Sue Naylor, with three daughters of her own. They all survive him.

**AUDREY NOEL HUME**

stant New Orleans to Frenchay Hospi-

guy, he proceeded with a colleague to

He married Margo Richards Nicholas in 1954, who died in 1987, and Christine Berkley in 1988. This marriage was dissolved in 1990 and in 1993 he married Rosemary Brooks. He is survived by his third wife, a son and a daughter.

employed by Cook, on the site of St Swithin's House in the City of London and immediately offered her services to him as a volunteer. Later that year they were married.

Though she was a great aid to her husband in his more numerous archaeological publications, Audrey Hume was the author of various publica-



Audrey Noël Hume is survived by her husband.

[illegible]

records one wet day and nearly dry days on which there was rain for a few minutes. On two days the sun was obscured by smoke from the forest fires. The rest was unbroken sunshine. At the moment of writing there has been no rain since the night of the 21st of March. In April, The meteorologist says the weather is still green. There is an illusion in English, and many French minds that 'the Riviera is too hot in summer.' Where I have been there was heat on 15 days in August of the kind which is not pleasant. Nothing more for two or three hours after the sun sets. Those nights also were hot. Otherwise the sun has always been tempered by gentle breezes from the sea, and the heat no greater than that of a fine summer in England.

The *mistral* has been bad. This curious and unpleasant north-west wind, which starts and stops as suddenly as if controlled by a tap, is, with occasional moments of lull, such as it has been, fewer than usual. This is the only drawback to the climate as I have known it.

the package holiday has killed off the island as it is described here: in sight now for thousands, including hundreds of "phonetic English", the majority with "driving gowns", displaying their "drawn" while the mistral lasts, generally for two nights, every one's nerves get on a painful stress track and crash in the one line one is longing for the night. But, curiously enough, in "our" offshore mistral, though it drives rain painfully against one's pocket, while one basks in bathing drawers or beach, does not disturb the sea near the shore, though, as often happens, there may be a west-breeze setting in at the same time has hardly been a day on which the where the English Channel, would not be described as calm. Sometimes it is

pull pond. Since early in June the water has been warm and even absolutely tepid. Like the beach, it sparkles with fragments of mica. "Our" beach is some three miles long of smooth, clean sand. The tide appears to rise about six inches. One considers that there is a crowd if there are 20 people within sight. At noon, after the first day's notice, we say that bathing suits and not drawers must be worn and that bathing gowns must be kept closed. This regulation, due, it is said, to certain "abuses" committed by German visitors elsewhere on the coast, was ignored in 1914, after the first day's notice, and so impaired the complete nudity of the small children.

Germans and Americans are almost unknown here. The visitors are mainly Swiss, Czechoslovaks (who seem to have been displaced from the coast) and provincials, French. There are a few non-fashionable English. Living in an average hotel costs about 10s. a day at the current rate of exchange. The food varies a good deal and might be better. Owing to the drought, there has been a shortage of vegetables, but peaches, melons, grapes and figs have been abundant enough. Ten percent of the hotel cost is for service and 4 per cent for "luncheon tax." Extra tips are not expected.



## NEWS

## Israeli troops die on eve of signing

Yassir Arafat and Yitzhak Rabin have flown to Washington for the signing of today's historic agreement between the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Israel at a White House ceremony.

But in a weekend of violence orchestrated by radical Palestinians opposed to the "declaration of principles", three Israeli soldiers were shot dead in Gaza and two members of a radical Palestinian group were killed. Pages 1, 12

## Rail cuts intensify privatisation clash

Ministers are embroiled in a new dispute after British Rail confirmed savage cuts in winter services. John MacGregor, the transport secretary, said the move was triggered by a drop in customers. But Labour said BR was getting ready for privatisation. Pages 1, 16, 17

## 'Visa factory' claims

Language schools are offering courses in Britain for as little as 70p an hour, enabling so-called "students" to work and stay here. Some 12-month courses cost as little as £500, laying schools open to the allegation that they are little more than "visa factories". Pages 1, 7

## Schools inspection

Leading public schools plan to introduce regular inspections in a drive to tighten standards. The Headmasters' Conference is expected to approve a blueprint requiring members to open their doors to inspection. Pages 1, 29

## Baker's VAT backing

Kenneth Baker, former Conservative party chairman, has urged the government to stand firm over VAT as it emerged that a fierce battle is raging in Whitehall over the extent of compensation for poor people needing help with heating bills. Page 2

## Princess keeps busy

The Princess Royal is keeping to her busy schedule of public engagements, amid rumours that she is expecting her first child by Commander Tim Laurence early next year. Page 3

## Short loses

Nigel Short was beaten again by his handling of the clock in *The Times* World Chess Championship. He lost game three after recovering from a bad opening in which Garry Kasparov had achieved an excellent position. Analysis, page 5

## Major film role for young unknown

A young British actress, who has made only one film, has landed a role in a major production featuring Tom Cruise, Brad Pitt and River Phoenix. Anouk Fontaine, 18, got the part in *Interview with the Vampire* after her agent sent off photographs. The film will be directed at Pinewood by Neil Jordan. But her role is a mystery to her. Page 3

## Diesel car fears

Government-commissioned reports are expected to warn ministers that diesel cars could trigger asthma attacks, heart disease and cancer in thousands of people. The reports could endanger sales worth about £2.3 billion. Page 7

## US health revolution

A leaked copy of President Clinton's plan to reform health care in the US has disclosed that its aim is not merely to improve the present system, which accounts for a seventh of the US economy, but to tear it down and start again. Page 13

## Mutineers defiant

The Bosnian Serb Army mutiny in the northern town of Banja Luka took a turn for the worse when rebel soldiers, who seized control on Friday, said that they no longer recognised the authority of the Banja Luka military authorities. Page 11

## Carter's Somali role

The former American president, Jimmy Carter, told a newspaper in Atlanta that he had been in regular contact with the fugitive Somali warlord General Muhammad Farrah Aidid during recent fighting. Page 13

## Kohl's challenge

Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, is preparing to fight off party critics and secure his leadership of the Christian Democratic Union as the party meets for its annual congress in Berlin. He will face a crucial election year. Page 10



British National Party supporters yell at Anti-Nazi League protesters during a demonstration in Brick Lane, east London yesterday. Page 3

## SPORT

**Golf:** Gordon Brand Jr had an easy seven-stroke victory in the GA European Open after a closing round of 71 gave him a 13 under par total of 275. Only 11 other players finished below par and the winning margin equalled the widest of the season. Page 25

**Football:** A second-half goal from Mike Newell saw Blackburn Rovers win 1-0 at Liverpool in the FA Carling Premiership. In the first division, Crystal Palace beat Sunderland 1-0. Pages 21, 27

**Motor racing:** Britain's Damon Hill won the Italian grand prix at Monza after team-mate Alain Prost was forced to retire while leading. Page 21

**Market return:** The Ashanti gold mine in Ghana is to return to international stockmarkets. The London flotation will value the mine at up to \$1 billion and draw attention to Lomaha's other mining assets. Page 40

**Mirror claims:** The trustees of the Mirror Group Pension Fund are planning to extend their litigation against Invesco MIM and could seek a total of £200 million from the investment group. Page 40

**Wage pressure:** Business leaders are to press the Confederation of British Industry at its monthly council meeting this week to keep wages low in order to increase competitiveness. Page 37

**Vigilante gardeners:** With crime prevention officers and horticulturalists in Essex having announced 12 plans recommended to give burglars a thorny problem, Libby Purves ponders alternative protection. Page 14

**Glowing tribute:** "Nothing looks more splendid, or more plush: The fabric catches the light, and seems to glow, even in the dark." Iain R. Webb on a velvet craze. Page 15

**Cautious moves:** With high graduate unemployment, students will look closely at job prospects before choosing a university. Page 29

**Hollywood to the rescue:** Thank heavens for the Americans, says David Robinson. For without them the fifth Venice Film Festival, part of the Biennale, would have been a painful event. Page 33

**The beat goes on:** If imposters such as the Bootleg Beatles can make money with old Beatles songs, why shouldn't people turn up in droves to see the man who created so many of them? Page 33

**Death in action:** John Keegan's book *A History of Warfare* is a glossary of killing. Yet it is not altogether pessimistic. Page 35

The Middle East peace deal is explored in *Panorama* (BBC1 9.25 pm) Page 39

## Off the rails

John MacGregor should go back to the drawing board and produce a White Paper to put rail privatisation in the wider context of a wider review of transport policy and public sector financing. Page 17

## Another hard winter

Politics in Russia present a sorry spectacle today. Too much depends on the personal authority of Mr Yeltsin. He now exudes the aura of a transient politician, another sad, lonely figure like Gorbachev, his time drawing to a close. Page 17

## Matters of the mind

The talents of the autistic teenager Stephen Wiltshire command humility, as proof that we have barely begun to unravel the mysteries of the human mind. Page 17

## WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Once a man thinks like a whip, he can with difficulty rid himself of that malformation of the intellect. He can come to think that it is a shocking thing, a very shocking thing, for someone who has been a whip to put country before party. Page 16

## PETER RIDDELL

Senior ministers, ex-ministers and civil servants are increasingly worried about the Scott enquiry into arms sales to Iraq. Page 16

## MATTHEW PARRIS

Sometimes I feel like a sports commentator reporting on a spider trying to get out of a bath, and commenting on each sally up a new slope - and he's taking a run at it. ... and - yes! - he's a whole half inch further up the side than the last attempt. Page 16

Sir Norman Fowler explains the Conservative party's financial position. Page 17

The news from Somalia isn't getting any better, and neither are Washington's explanations why US and UN forces are killing so many Somalis. Page 17

The whole Somalia intervention is unsustainable unless its goals can be made clearer. Page 17

## THE TIMES TOMORROW

## Keeping the audience at bay

The director Peter Greenaway is proud to admit that impersonality is one of the identifying hallmarks of his films. Who says audiences have to be involved anyway? Page 2

## Lloyd's and the US losers

Ten per cent of Lloyd's names are Americans. James D. Zirin on the bitter, vocal and litigious losers from across the Atlantic. Page 2

## In search of opera superstars

Who are the singers who could be tomorrow's opera superstars? English National Opera hopes to find out by nurturing the rising generation. Page 2

## PEOPLE IN THE TIMES



Stephen Wiltshire, the autistic boy who amazed art critics with his ability to draw buildings after a glance. Has shown rare musical talent. Page 1

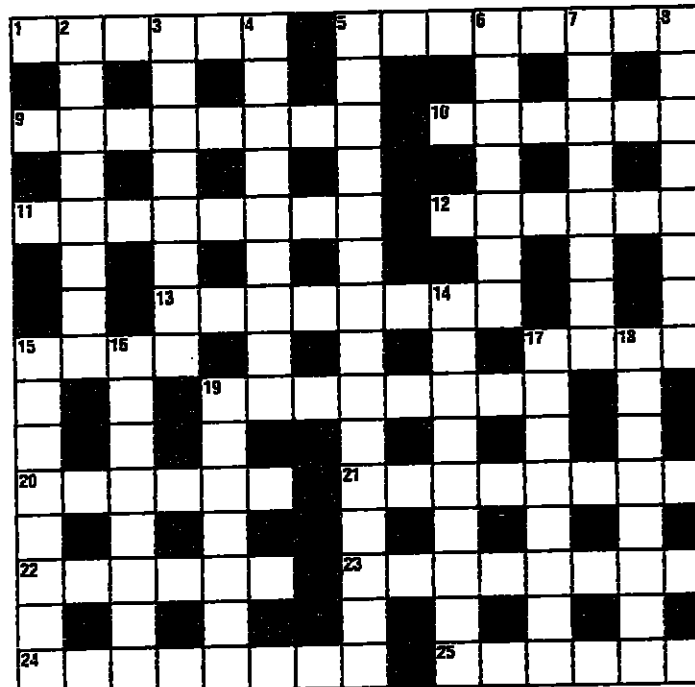


Gro Harlem Brundtland, the Norwegian prime minister, is favourite to win in the general election which began yesterday. Page 10



Peter Mayo, who won the 23rd annual Times Crossword Championship, solved the four puzzles in an average time of 11 1/4 minutes. Page 2

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,334



- ACROSS**
- Plenty following second test (6).
  - Standard weapon, in a manner of speaking (8).
  - Shrink from first contact with foreigner (5).
  - Asian State long in turmoil (6).
  - Row about keeping single assistant to cook (8).
  - Tinker with opening to accept foreign currency (6).
  - Tell, maybe, of attempt by father to grasp English (4,4).
  - Apparition blame team incurred to some extent (4).
  - Fare reorganisation creating alarm (4).
  - His accounts are open to public scrutiny (8).
  - Trips conducted initially among Europeans (6).
- DOWN**
- One who gets excited cowering the birds (3).
  - Loss balance in outing on horseback (4,2).
  - Biscuit broken about one for nourishment (3).
  - Put one's name to letters giving guidance (6).
  - Harangued worker in debt (6).
  - Budget for a student place (5).
  - Rule out comedian's entrance in curtain-raiser (8).
  - Get rid of ailment that's troubling (9).
  - Cause embarrassment when advising how to gain entry to Oxford, for example (3,4,4,2,2).
  - On receiving no sign of approval as a watchman (7).
  - Pessimistic when vintage harvest is held up by Eurocrats' head (8).
  - It expands developments in general surgery with royal support (9).
  - Perhaps a customer abroad is on a more appropriate footing (9).
  - Sancuons staff appointments (8).
  - Spare man on board? It's a matter for conjecture (8).
  - Set about right half, say (8).
  - Flexible headgear for six-footers (8).
  - Soldiers joke about direction to get fit again (2,5).

## KNOCKANDS

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,333 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockands, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a stationary rack.

Concise Crossword, page 40

## TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0800 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
East of London	702
West of London	703
Wiltshire & Dorset	704
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Weather call is charged at 36p per minute (cheapest rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

## AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0360 481 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
C London (within N & S Circles)	732
M-ways/roads M4-M1	733
M-ways/roads M1-Dorset T	734
M-ways/roads Dorset T-M23	735
M23-London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Angles	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheapest rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

## WEATHER

A windy day across the country with gales in places and rather cool. Central and northern Scotland will have patchy rain. Southern Scotland, Northern Ireland and northern England will be cloudy with outbreaks of rain. Wales and the remaining parts of England will be brighter, but there will be showers, some heavy and thundery. In southern England the showers may be prolonged. Outlook: less windy but staying unsettled.

## MIDDAY: 1 = thunder, 2 = drizzle, 3 = fog, 4 = rain, 5 = sun, 6 = clear, 7 = overcast, 8 = rain, 9 = sun, 10 = sun, 11 = sun, 12 = sun, 13 = sun, 14 = sun, 15 = sun, 16 = sun, 17 = sun, 18 = sun, 19 = sun, 20 = sun, 21 = sun, 22 = sun, 23 = sun, 24 = sun, 25 = sun, 26 = sun, 27 = sun, 28 = sun, 29 = sun, 30 = sun, 31 = sun, 32 = sun, 33 = sun, 34 = sun, 35 = sun, 36 = sun, 37 = sun, 38 = sun, 39 = sun, 40 = sun, 41 = sun, 42 = sun, 43 = sun, 44 = sun, 45 = sun, 46 = sun, 47 = sun, 48 = sun, 49 = sun, 50 = sun, 51 = sun, 52 = sun, 53 = sun, 54 = sun, 55 = sun, 56 = sun, 57 = sun, 58 = sun, 59 = sun, 60 = sun, 61 = sun, 62 = sun, 63 = sun, 64 = sun, 65 = sun, 66 = sun, 67 = sun, 68 = sun, 69 = sun, 70 = sun, 71 = sun, 72 = sun, 73 = sun, 74 = sun, 75 = sun, 76 = sun, 77 = sun, 78 = sun, 79 = sun, 80 = sun, 81 = sun, 82 = sun, 83 = sun, 84 = sun, 85 = sun, 86 = sun, 87 = sun, 88 = sun, 89 = sun, 90 = sun, 91 = sun, 92 = sun, 93 = sun, 94 = sun, 95 = sun, 96 = sun, 97 = sun, 98 = sun, 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EDUCATION 29

How are graduates faring in the search for work?

ARTS 33-34

Paul McCartney: Who better to sing Beatles' songs?

BUSINESS 36-40

The fruits of being an ERM failure

BOOKS ON MONDAY Page 35

# THE TIMES

# 2

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13 1993

Briton outraces Alesi and Andretti to beat his father's record for consecutive victories

## Hill steals Prost's thunder at Monza



Hill: three in a row

DAMON Hill stole the glory his Williams team had intended for Alain Prost here yesterday when he kept his faint Formula One world championship hopes flickering by winning his third successive grand prix in a race so full of drama and spectacle that it sucked the cheers out of the mouths of the supporters and turned them into gasps.

Prost, who needed only to win to clinch his fourth world drivers' championship, appeared to have held off a fine comeback and late charge by Hill when his Renault engine blew four laps from the end of the 53-lap race and forced his retirement amid a plume of greyish smoke and a cascade of spraying oil.

Hill took the chequered flag almost unnoticed as the Italians greeted Jean Alesi's second place in a Ferrari with a cacophony of claxons and then fell silent as Christian Fittipaldi's Minardi completed

a back somersault in the pit straight that would have graced an Olympic gymnast. McLaren's American driver, Michael Andretti, went some way towards redeeming his miserable season by claiming his first podium finish, third place.

But afterwards, Hill could not hide his joy at a triumph that was redolent with nostalgia. His late father, Graham, only ever won two races on the trot, in 1962, but one of them was at Monza and his son's win here establishes them as the first father-son pair to win grands prix at the same venue.

"I was almost in tears before I crossed the line," Hill said. "My first reaction when Alain's engine blew was fear because it covered my vision in oil and I was blinded. I don't want to make a deal out of it but it was a bit hairy."

"I drove the knockers off my car today and I expect my dad is jumping around with the



Oliver Holt in Monza reports on the Italian grand prix and how Damon Hill charged to glory

rest of them up there. I have not really considered the idea of winning the world championship yet. My chances are not really that realistic."

Hill now needs to win two of the last three races in Portugal, Japan and Australia, finish second in the other and see Prost fail to finish in each to claim the title at a time when he is still not sure whether he will be given a contract to drive for Williams again next year. "I have shot myself in the foot by winning," Hill said. "Because Frank Williams has said all along he will not name a second driver until the championship is decided."

At the race's start, his hopes of the title appeared to have vanished. The fates seemed to

be conspiring to help Prost to a fourth championship to go with the ones he won with McLaren in 1985, 1986 and 1989, when Hill and Ayrton Senna, the only two drivers capable of overhauling him, crashed into each other as they hurtled towards the first chicane.

"Senna was half alongside me at that point," Hill said. "I did not want to let him pass so I made it close for him and he climbed up on my car and pushed me onto the kerb. I was very worried in case the car was damaged." Although they rejoined, Hill and Senna finished the first lap in ninth and tenth places respectively as the Frenchman sped away in the lead.

He gradually edged away from Alesi, who had enriched the race weekend with his daring driving and fine qualifying performances. When Alesi ceded second place to Michael Schumacher, in his Benetton-Ford, Prost responded by extending his lead. When Schumacher was forced to retire with engine failure after 22 laps, Prost was left with an 18-second cushion over Hill, and when he completed a smooth pitstop four laps later, it seemed the last obstacle to his triumph had been safely negotiated.

But then Hill began to eat into his time dramatically, setting a blistering series of lap records as Prost struggled with backmarkers and an overheating car. By the 38th lap, the gap was just nine seconds, by the 42nd it was 4.6sec and two laps later Hill was climbing all over Prost's tailpipe.

Then, tangibly, Hill backed

off, ostensibly because the temperature of his own engine had begun to rise dangerously high, although it seemed the vexed question of team orders may have been lurking uncomfortably in the background.

"Damon covered himself in glory today," the team owner, Williams, said. "There were team orders but I'm not prepared to say what they were. We came here to win a championship so work it out for yourselves."

Although Williams have, on isolated occasions this season, told their drivers to hold station in the position they occupy ten laps from the end of the race, Prost's achievement would have had a hollow ring had it been accomplished in a contrived situation.

That scenario was avoided when his engine failed. "I am disappointed," the Frenchman said. "But that's motor racing."

DETAILS	
1. D Hill (GB), Williams-Renault, 1hr 17min 52.5sec	2. J Alesi (Fr), Ferrari, 1:17.40.012
3. M Andretti (US), McLaren-Ford, one lap behind	4. K Winkinger (Austria), Sauber, one lap
5. R Fittipaldi (Br), Minardi-Ford, two laps	6. E Comas (It), Larrousse-Lamborghini, two laps
7. P L Martin (Fr), Minardi-Ford, two laps	8. C Fittipaldi (Br), Minardi-Ford, two laps
9. P Alesi (Fr), Larrousse-Lamborghini, two laps	10. J Badoer (It), Lola-BMS-Ford, two laps
11. P Lamy (Fr), Lotus-Ford, four laps	12. A Prost (Fr), Williams-Renault, five laps
13. A de Cesaris (It), Tyrrell-Yamaha, six laps	14. U Katahama (Japan), Tyrrell-Yamaha, six laps
15. M Schumacher (Ger), Benetton, 21 laps	16. M Blundell (GB), Ligier, 21 laps
17. M Blundell (GB), Ligier, 21 laps	18. S Berger (Austria), Ferrari, 19 laps
19. J Herbert (GB), Lotus, 14 laps	20. M Brundage (GB), Ligier, 8 laps
21. A Senna (Br), McLaren, 8 laps	Did not start (classified to complete one lap): R Barrichello (Br), Jordan; M Apolito (It), Jordan; J J Larini (Fr), Sauber; D Warwick (GB), Footwork; Mugen-Honda; A Suzuki (Japan), Footwork; Footwork; Footwork
Drivers' championship after 13 rounds: 1. A Prost, 51pts; 2. D Hill, 38; 3. A Senna, 33; 4. M Schumacher, 25; 5. P Fittipaldi, 20; 6. M Brundage, 12; 7. J Herbert, 11; 8. J Alesi, 10.	
Constructors' championship: 1. Williams-Renault, 130pts; 2. Benetton-Ford, 62; 3. McLaren-Ford, 50; 4. Ligier-Renault, 21; 5. Ferrari, 20; 6. Lotus-Ford, 12; 7. Sauber, 10; 8. Minardi-Ford, 7.	



Wilcox, of Blackburn, sends the ball on its way before Ruddock, the Liverpool defender, can get his sliding tackle in at Anfield yesterday

## Bold Blackburn make Liverpool see red

SUNDAY football may have put red meat off the lunchtime menu for half of Merseyside, but Liverpool's ill-tempered, ill-disciplined and irrational behaviour in defeat certainly had the red corpuscles flying at Anfield yesterday.

Blackburn Rovers, brought here for the second time by Kenny Dalglish, the former Liverpool manager, not only left with all the points after a 1-0 win, but slipped ominously and worthily into third place in the table. In the process they inflicted on Liverpool their third defeat in four games, hence the malice from the team in red.

Dalglish said that the one disappointing performance of the afternoon was the referee's. Indeed, Dalglish, normally so cautious and tight with words, called Mike Reed's display "diabolical".

The manager may well be the next called to the Star Chamber at Lancaster Gate. But someone, some time, has to admit that refereeing in this country is from time to time as culpable as the misbehaviour of players for the tuggery that can disfigure even a match such as this.

Reed showed the yellow card to four Blackburn players — Le Saux and Berg within 60 seconds, Warhurst and Ripley — and only one official caution to a Liverpool player, once again Jones for a reckless late challenge. Yet having booked Berg for an exemplary sliding tackle that won the ball, he did nothing against Molby for an atrocious use of his 14st bulk by clattering into Gallacher in the 76th minute.

This led to a mêlée in which Wright was also allowed to push Newell, and then Ruddock blatantly punched Newell, again incurring nothing by way of official retribution.

Sad to relate, Ruddock seems to be reverting to the wild-man behaviour that brought him so many red cards before Spurs disciplined his act. Quite how he escaped a ban for an horrendous follow-through on to the ankles of Newell is a mystery.

Why was Newell such a target? Because he was the matchwinner, because his bravery would never succumb to the combined bruising from Wright and Ruddock. Newell is a Liverpoolian, one who craved to play at Anfield



Rob Hughes watches Dalglish's team bring an ill-tempered display from the players he left behind

for Liverpool, but was rejected after an apprenticeship. He has now scored eight times against the club on which he was weaned.

Yesterday's winner, in the 54th minute, brought Jack Walker to his feet. This publicity-shy man has bankrolled Blackburn towards their tilt at former glories. And when he

leapt up yesterday, so did the few neutrals in the ground.

Wilcox floated a corner high over the packed goalmouth. Newell was lurking unmarked — another example of Liverpool's disorder — and when he stretched out with the left foot he met the ball with a sweet half-volley to dispatch it, unstopably, high into Grobbelaar's net.

Liverpool's best chances came within seconds of each other almost before Blackburn had settled to the swirling wind and rain. Molby's vision released McManaman on the right, but the rangy winger's chip was misused and wide of the far post. Before anyone could draw breath Nicol had also missed with a badly directed volley.

But now Blackburn were into their stride. The team is full of players who cost millions, but the work ethic, the running for each other is extreme, and there are seldom

less than eight men protecting the backs of their defenders whenever danger threatens.

Paul Warhurst, making his debut as a £2.7 million player, was asked to play central midfield and use his renowned acceleration to burst forward when chances arose, but also to tackle, to cover and pass.

"It's basically simple," Dalglish said of the Blackburn style. "He [Warhurst] is versatile, he's knowledgeable, and the game today is not about 11 players any more, it's about 20. I don't think there are many who make their debut with a win at Anfield."

Perhaps not, but though Dalglish was asked to present his new purchase with the man of the match champagne, the feeling was that Ripley was more the personification of what is making Blackburn such a difficult team to beat.

Away from home, he sacrifices the dashing winger's thrust that was so exciting at Ewood Park in his first season. He spent much of this game shuttling backwards and forwards, protecting his full back, Berg, and yet midway through the first half he

released Gallacher with the best ball of the afternoon.

It was hit with the precision of an arrow, 50 yards along the greasy turf. Gallacher raced on to it, turned the ball between Wright's legs, and that was where the speed of Warhurst, whose attempt to slide the ball in was mistimed by a split second, was seen.

But there were more chances for the team playing on the break than a home team which, until the hour, had Rush isolated, and Clough, wearing Dalglish's old No 7, too often the rabbit in Blackburn's organised off-side trap. And even when Rosenthal was introduced to the attack, even when, in the 64th minute, he had a similar chance to the one from which Newell scored, he snatched at it.

LIVERPOOL (4-4-2): S Grobbelaar — R Jones, M Wright, N Ruddock, S Beresford (sub: R Rosenthal, 60min) — S McManaman, R Whelan, J Molloy, S Nicol — N Clough, J Rush (sub: J Rodman, 88).

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): B Morris — H Berry, D May (sub: N Barker, 74), K Moran, G Le Saux — S Fittipaldi, P Whelan, T Stevenson, J Wilcox — K Gallacher, M Newell.

Referee: M Reed

Reports, pages 26, 27  
David Miller, page 26

## Swales refuses to rush into sale

By Peter Ball

FRANCIS Lee's hopes of buying Manchester City, his former football club, are no further advanced today after a weekend of manoeuvring. Yesterday, Peter Swales, the chairman, met another prospective buyer, but insisted that no sale is imminent.

Swales has been under pressure from the club's supporters for some time, and the discontent surfaced two weeks ago when John Maddock, the new general manager, sacked Peter Reid, the manager. On Saturday, there was a demonstration by supporters, who want to see Lee the former England player, take over the club.

Swales said last week that he would sell at the right price, but the indications yesterday were that he might be having second thoughts. He is also unhappy at Lee's use of

the crowd and media to promote his bid.

"I know there's a time for everybody to step down, and that time is going to come for me, but I'm not sure that it's come just yet," he said yesterday. "The whole thing has blown up in the last two weeks, and you can't suddenly change the whole of your thinking in that time. I'm not going to be hustled into anything."

The emergence of alternative buyers cannot help Lee's cause, but his consortium believes that the figures of £15 million being floated are unrealistic. "No-one is going to panic me into making a bid," Lee said on Saturday. Yesterday, he was more conciliatory. "I hope negotiators from both sides will face each other before the end of the week," he said.

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## Launching the challenge of a lifetime

As Sweden began to celebrate their first gold medal since 1983, Bigot negotiated his way safely over the last to become the first non-British rider to win the individual gold since 1981.

Dance Man (K. Gafford, Ger), 89.80; 3, *Belushi* (E. Stubb, Holl), 89.0; 4, *Mr Punch* (A. Hermann, Swe), 96.80; 5, *White Girl* (P. Thomsen, Ger), 103.0; 6, *Watercolour* (M. Curran, Ire), 105.40 Other British placings: 7, *Wilton Houdini* (V Lang), 106.80; 21, *The Cool Customer* (C. Bathie), 137.30; 40, *Troublebooter* (H Bell), 289.70.

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□ Chay Blyth, right, the guiding force behind Ocean Challenge 1996-7

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# Chinese blitz causes stir

up a lead of four lengths, but Miller fought back doggedly with five laps to go, eventually winning by 4min 56.54sec.

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WANG Junxia, of China, the world champion at 10,000 metres, became the first woman to officially hold the world 3,000 and 10,000 metres records simultaneously when she broke the 3,000 mark at China's seventh national games in Peking yesterday.

Paolo Pigni, of Italy, held both records in 1976 for either the 3,000 or 10,000 metres. The International Amateur Athletic Federation for record purposes.

Wang, 20, slashed 10.42sec off the previous 3,000 metres record, set by Tatyana Kazankina, of the former Soviet Union, in 1984, with a time of 8min 12.20sec. Last Wednesday, Wang knocked 41.96sec off the world 10,000 metres record, and Saturday bettered the previous world 1,500 metres mark while finishing second to her

compatriot, Qu Yunxia. Qu's mark of 3min 50.46sec was 2.01sec inside Kazankina's previous record, set in Zurich in 1980.

Wang's time yesterday underlined the astonishing emergence of the Chinese women runners this year. They won the 1,500, 3,000 and 10,000 metres at the world championship in Stuttgart last month, but it is their performances in the national games which have excited most interest and, inevitably, suspicion.

Lynn Jennings, the former world cross-country champion who finished fifth, behind Wang, in the 10,000 metres in Stuttgart, broke down in tears when told about Wang's time on Wednesday.

"I believe these performances are out of scale," Jennings said. "I believe they

**FOOTBALL**

**FA Carling Premiership**  
Newcastle v Sheffield Wednesday  
(B.D. all ticket) .....

**DIADORA LEAGUE:** Premier division:  
Stevenage Borough v Carlisleton (7.30);  
Wimborne v Dulwich (7.30)

**BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE:** Premier division:  
Chesham Borough (7.30)

**NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE:** First division:  
Curzon Ashton v Gusley; Emley v Whitley Bay (7.30); Hyde v Boston (7.30).

**NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE:** Premier division:  
Sheffield v Stocksbridge P.S.

**FA CUP:** First qualifying round replays:  
Northwich Victoria v Curzon Ashton v Chalfont St Giles v Oldbury Utd.

**PONTINS LEAGUE:** First division:  
Mansfield v Loughborough (7.30) Second

division: Bradford v Tranmere (7.0), Mans-  
field v West Brom (7.0), Preston v  
Rotherham (7.0)  
**NEVILLE WESTBROOK CRICKET:**  
First division: Chelsea v Warwick (7.0)  
Maidwell v Oxford Utd (2.0)  
**CRICKET**  
**Britannic Assurance**  
**county championship**  
Final day of tour  
10.30  
**CARDIFF:** Glamorgan v Essex  
**Bristol:** Gloucestershire v  
Nottinghamshire  
**SOUTHAMPTON:** Hampshire v  
Leicestershire  
**EDGBASTON:** Warwickshire v  
Somerset

**LORD'S:** Middlesex v Lancashire  
**SCARBOROUGH:** Yorkshire v Sussex  
**Third youth Test**  
Final day of tour  
**OLD TRAFFORD:** England Under-19 v  
West Indies Under-19  
**Tour match**  
Final day of three  
10.30, 60 overs minimum  
Canterbury: Kent v Zimbabweans

**OTHER SPORT**

**SNOOKER:** UK championship qualifiers  
Final day (Blackpool)

**SPEEDWAY:** First division: Reading v  
Arena Easter (7.30). Second division: Exeter  
v Edinburgh (7.30). Melton Open cham-  
pionship (7.30). Walsingham











# Lively City hit form and confuse issue for protesters



Lee: potential saviour

"I EXPECT Peter Swales is glad we turned up," Gerry Francis, the QPR manager, said caustically after watching his side succumb meekly to give Manchester City their first home win since April.

His point was understandable. As Sixties radicals, veterans of Berkeley and Grosvenor Square know, the best day for a demo is when the sun is shining. It shone over Maine Road on Saturday, and the City supporters enjoyed a thoroughly good day.

Perhaps too good a day. With City winning comfortably, followed by the news of United's defeat, an air of unreality pervaded the ground, dispelling the sense of anger in the demonstrations against the chairman, Peter Swales, which had been much more noticeable in the previous game against

Coventry. But from the start, like Berkeley in the Sixties when the flower children handed flowers and/or pot to the National Guard, the hint of a fiesta invaded the revolt. While 1,000 stood outside the ground before kick-off chanting their protests, hawks did a good trade selling "Swales Out" T-shirts.

There, too, was the militant tendency, handing out maps of Swales's home, and even a wild-eyed vicar, the leader of the "Forward with Franny" faction, orchestrating the chants for the television cameras.

With the arrival of their potential saviour, Francis Lee, the chants redoubled, and they were transferred inside the ground in time for the kick-off, once an American marching band and a character known as Mr

Peter Ball sees the demonstrations against

Peter Swales briefly stilled as Manchester

City win Brian Horton's first home match 3-0

Bobby stopped his antics to leave room for the players. But although the chants from the main stand and the Kippax terraces alike left Swales in no doubt about the crowd's feelings, for real anger to develop it needed a poor performance.

Instead City took the lead after 18 minutes. By the interval they were two up, and a rendition of "Blue Moon" mingled with the "Swales Out".

"When you've got a situation like you've got here, it can help people get behind the club," Francis said. "There was probably a lot

more noise generated before the game than usual, and that helped their players."

If that was a surprising interpretation, there was little argument with his follow-up: "But my players helped their even more."

The greatest sense of grievance on view all day came on the pitch rather than in the stands. Ferdinand and Impey being booked for the force of their protests over the first goal when Curie appeared to have fouled Ferdinand at the start of the move.

The interval gave Rangers time to regroup, and they did so with some success. Impey

Roberts being beaten on his near post for Quinn to tap in the rebound.

That sense of grievance provoked Rangers into a response, and Pearce should have equalised when Wilkins found him six yards out, but a flashing volley flew over the bar. There was hardly time to register the thought that perhaps it was not going to be the London side's day when the point was proved by City's second goal.

If the first goal had shared responsibility, the second was right down to the goalkeeper, who missed Groenendijk's corner, leaving Sheron with a free header from about three yards. Wilson blocked it on the line, but Sheron forced home the rebound.

The interval gave Rangers time to regroup, and they did so with some success. Impey

and Ferdinand hit the woodwork, and Coton made a breathtaking save from the England forward, but by then Filcroft had scored City's third with the aid of a deflection, confirming that it was not Rangers' day.

But was it Peter Swales's day? The game won the crowd's return to their chants, staying on to demand his departure. But will he go? He has muddled the waters by suggesting that he has two other bids, but insiders think he may still decide to hang on, a view not undermined by his interview on Match of the Day.

MANCHESTER CITY (4-2-2): A. Coton - S. Ferdinand, K. Coton, D. Brightwell, T. Probert - S. Melton, D. White (sub: A. Lister), A. Groenendijk, R. Holden, M. Sheron, M. Quinn. QPR (4-4-2): A. Roberts, D. Berkeley, D. Pearce, A. McDonald, C. Wilson, J. Impey, M. Doyle, R. Wilkins, T. Sheron (sub: B. Allan, sub: L. Ferdinand, G. Perovic). Referee: A. White.

## Exciting striker rues two that got away

Leicester City ..... 1  
Birmingham City ..... 1

By Peter Ball

PAUL Peschisolido's fifth goal of the season earned Birmingham City a point at Filbert Street yesterday. It was the least they deserved, the second city's second team dominating the match for long periods against a Leicester side that has yet to recapture the flowing rhythms of last season.

Birmingham by contrast are transformed from the side that struggled last season. Without the vast expenditure that their neighbours, Wolverhampton Wanderers, enjoyed, they have strengthened their side significantly.

They are more than respectable, playing attractive, positive football, and in Peschisolido they have one of the most exciting young forwards outside the Premiership.

Yesterday, however, their failure to turn some attractive approach work into a comfortable lead by half-time could partly be blamed on the young Canadian international as he twice failed to finish excellent chances with his usual sharpness.

The first came on the half-hour as Smith's astute pass gave Peschisolido the opening, but a low drive gave Ward little trouble.

He was more culpable for the second misfire. Donowa advanced up the byline and picked out Peschisolido, but with the goal gaping, the forward's sidefoot shot lacked power and Ward was able to turn it over the bar.

When Parris did get the ball past Ward, the strike was ruled out, possibly for offside against Smith or Smith, the position of Leicester's temporary pressbox making a definitive statement impossible.

With Donowa tracking back to settle Joachim, and Speedie's abrasiveness on this occasion not matched by his sharpness, Leicester, meanwhile had been comparatively subdued, but they had the first serious attack of the second half, Miller saving well from Mills.

When Birmingham replied, Mills was back in his more familiar defensive position, heading Dryden's header off the line.

Minutes later, Leicester were in front from an identical situation. Walsh meeting Gibson's corner with a soaring header that defeated Parris's intervention.

Birmingham however responded determinedly, and Peschisolido had the last word, sweeping in ahead of Whyte as Saville turned on a free kick in the 64th minute. Moments later, he was booked as he pulled Mills down, but Birmingham thereafter recovered their ascendancy, Smith and Parris dominating midfield and Donowa constantly troubling the defence with his sinuous runs.

Leicester could have snatched it at the death, but Speedie shot over from close range as, for once, he escaped the attentions of Whyte and Dryden.

"We did not play well," Brian Little, the Leicester manager, said, "so we've got to be happy with a point." LEICESTER CITY (4-2-2): G. Ward - G. Mills, M. Whyte, H. C. Gibson - J. Parris, S. Thompson, S. Agnew, I. Bristow, M. Smith, C. Smith, R. Miles, J. Dryden, C. Whyte, J. Firth - S. Pegg, G. Saville, P. Peschisolido. Referee: J. Kay.

## Stamford Bridge rises to applaud Wise judgments

HEROES can come in all shapes and sizes, particularly when sport offers an allegory of David and Goliath. When Chelsea left the field at the end of an eventful 1-0 victory over the Premier League champions, the man of the moment for the home crowd was little Dennis Wise.

Football at its best generates the relationship between audience and performers of live theatre. Manchester United, unbeaten in league football for six months, were the visiting villains for the majority of Stamford Bridge's vociferous 37,000 spectators. Alex Ferguson was loudly mocked every time he leapt from the trainer's bench to shout some instruction, and was rudely advised what he could do with his players.

Giggs and Cantona, jewels of the title-winning team, were likewise derided every time they lost the ball to a blue-shirted challenge. United were up to their ears in discomfort in decidedly unfriendly country, and their own gathering of loyalists camped behind one goal spent long periods in sustained, unfamiliar silence.

Wise, who produced no single moment of skill that you would go home and talk about - as compared with the evergreen Hoddle, say - nonetheless was symptomatic of Chelsea's improbable victory with his ubiquitous ener-



David Miller watches a half-pint

Chelsea hero play a leading role in plotting the champions' downfall

gy. Half-pint sized, a sort of cross between Norman Wisdom and Bob Hoskins, Wise has a special affinity with London crowds, and spectators had to be restrained from mobbing him at the final whistle.

Analysis of a splendid match provides two bottom lines: for Chelsea, that they will probably play better this season and lose, because they do not score the goals they create; for United, that they probably conceded defeat as much by the voluntary omission of Hughes as by Schmeichel's uncharacteristic error in the seventeenth minute.

Ferguson generously said that Chelsea were "entitled to believe they deserved victory", but privately he considered it should never have happened. His selection - preparing for Wednesday's European tie in Budapest, where Hughes is suspended - may, however, have been the key. His team was physically leaderless up front.

Seldom will you see a clearer demonstration of the merit of collective will-power than now shown by Chelsea. Little

has changed at the Bridge in my 40-odd years of attendance: a ground with all the appeal of a derelict shunting yard on bad days, throbbing alive on good days, and the team almost always, frustratingly, less than the sum of its parts. Here was all the evidence to suggest the Chelsea this season will, as ever, be breaking hearts with unfilled promise.

Hoddle talked afterwards about "getting our game-plan right". He talked quite a lot about it during the match, too, with much directional arm-waving at defenders and fellow midfield players, as he attempted to put his "whirl" tactics into operation. This involves almost everybody, at different times, getting forward into attack, especially Clarke, the right back, whose shot it was that Schmeichel fumbled to allow Peacock to score.

I cannot see Peacock, who should have had a hat-trick, or Cascarino scoring enough goals to put Chelsea in contention for a UEFA Cup place; but they will certainly compete with anyone. Sinclair, who jumps high for his height, is a tough central defender, who was booked early for a nasty foul on Giggs and was later fortunate not to be sent off. Clarke, Dow and the promising Kjeldbjerg all use the ball. Newton is a worker in midfield with Donaghy - a 1982 World Cup veteran with Hoddle and Robson - who has forgotten more than many professionals ever learn.

Hoddle himself was playing as sweeper in front of the defence. He hit some of the afternoon's best passes, as you would expect, but as he tired, so Chelsea became more vulnerable, even when pulling nine men behind the ball. Yet it was in the last 20 minutes that Hoddle opened further scoring chances for Peacock - just as his swerving through ball had set up the shot for Clarke.

Manchester United old-timers such as Paddy Creadon and Steve Coppell, the latter waiting for a fresh managerial opening and meanwhile impairing his wisdom on the radio airwaves, were shaking



Peacock celebrates scoring the winning goal against Manchester United at Stamford Bridge on Saturday

their heads at Saturday's lack of balance. The width that distinguished United last season - Giggs and Sharpe wide, Hughes feeding of Cantona centrally, Ince and McClair holding the middle - was now missing, with Robson replacing Hughes as an additional midfield player.

Cantona could not steady

the line alone. Giggs was lightweight, Keane was pushed into comparative insignificance on the right side of midfield. Vigorous Chelsea tackling crushed much of United's first-time passing. Even so, United did more than enough to have taken a point, notably when Cantona, well positioned on the hour, sent a

diving header wide from Sharpe's cross.

Ferguson threw on McClair for Robson in the last ten minutes. A frenzied Chelsea defence held out against random and, by now, uncoordinated United attacks. Although Ferguson suggested afterwards that Chelsea would have been worried by

his selection, saying of the formation "they're all good enough", Chelsea had proved that United are indeed beatable and also that Ferguson probably does not have the reserve depth to make such radical, voluntary, tactical change away from home. Not if he is successfully to defend the title.

### PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

	Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1 Manchester Utd	7	16	+10	LWWWD
2 Arsenal	7	16	+6	WDWWW
3 Blackburn	7	14	+4	WDDWW
4 Coventry	7	13	+5	DWDDD
5 Liverpool	7	12	+8	LLWLW
6 Aston Villa	7	12	+4	DWWLD
7 Wimbledon	7	12	+2	WWDLD
8 Everton	7	12	+2	WLLWW
9 Norwich	7	11	+3	LDDWW
10 Tottenham	7	11	+1	DDLWW
11 Ipswich	7	11	0	LDDLW
12 Leeds	7	10	-3	WWLLL
13 Chelsea	7	9	+1	WDDWL
14 QPR	7	9	-4	LWWLW
15 Manchester City	7	8	+1	WWDLL
16 Sheffield Utd	7	5	-3	DLDWL
17 Newcastle	7	6	-1	DDWDL
18 Oldham	7	5	-5	LLDDL
19 West Ham	7	5	-8	DLLWD
20 Southampton	7	3	-5	LLLWL
21 Sheffield Wed	7	3	-5	DLDLD
22 Swindon	7	2	-14	DLDDL

Weekly change: Up Stayed the same Down

## Campbell steps out of the shadows

FOR too long, George Graham had said on Friday, Kevin Campbell has been in awe of Ian Wright. The more muscular half of potentially the best strike force in the FA Cup Premiership had been slumbering in the shadows of his best pal and partner. It was time for the real Kevin Campbell to stand up.

Twenty-eight hours and several headlines later, the crowd at Highbury did just that to applaud Campbell off the field, his hat-trick having helped Arsenal to a 4-0 win over Ipswich Town. Yet for Campbell the shadows cast by Wright have, if anything, lengthened. Here was genius at work.

Forget the return of one goal in 14 internationals. Forget, too, the boorish behaviour that has landed Wright in occasional bother with the authorities. Here is a striker who at club level is not only the most consistent finisher in the country but also one blessed with such outrageous natural talent that you can

Keith Pike witnesses the hat-trick that ends a barren spell for Arsenal's other gifted striker

neither anticipate it nor legislate for it. A coach's dream, a defender's nightmare.

Campbell's first goal, a right-foot half-volley into the far corner, around ten yards, may have been well taken, but what led up to it was a moment of skill and vision combined that perhaps only Wright and Shearer, the recuperating Blackburn Rovers forward, are capable of.

During Blackburn's 7-1 demolition of Norwich City last October, Shearer had accelerated at a retreating defence and, without appearing to check his stride, had chipped a goal that took the breath away. On Saturday it was Wright's turn: instinctive and inspired, and never happier than when playing in his own back yard.

Ipswich, as they did so often, conceded possession with a sloppy pass in midfield, and Davis sent Wright

scampering down the left. David Linighan did what every good defender should, cutting off the direct route to goal as he back-pedalled, staying upright and jockeying so successfully that, by the time Wright had reached the penalty area, Stockwell was also barring his way. No problem.

If you cannot go through them, go over them. Using his right foot like a nine-iron, Wright lofted the ball over defenders and goalkeeper and on to the far face of the crossbar, the rebound favouring Campbell. It was a sublime moment, perhaps even surpassing the brilliance of Wright's recent goal against Everton and making his Wembley miss that much harder to comprehend.

Wright's first significant contribution had come earlier, his 62nd Arsenal goal in his 87th game for them com-

prising merely a burst of acceleration onto Campbell's headed pass, a surge away from Stockwell and a precise finish from an increasingly difficult angle to give his side the lead. Routine stuff, really.

Wright was the first to congratulate Campbell after Merson's back-heel and Winterburn's cross had set up Arsenal's third, and first to react later to a loose ball on the edge of the Ipswich area, an instant pass allowing Campbell in for his hat-trick.

Ipswich might have scored four themselves, but you sensed that if they had Arsenal would have got four more. "We were simply unable to cope with their forward power," Mick McGivern, the Ipswich coach, said. "We will not be the only ones to suffer if Arsenal continue to play like that."

ARSENAL (4-2-1-2): D. Seaman - M. Keown, A. Adams, A. Linighan, N. Winterburn - J. Jensen (sub: C. Hooper, 60min) - A. Merson (sub: A. Smith, 70min) - K. Campbell, I. Wright. IPSWICH TOWN (4-4-2): G. Forster - M. Schofield, D. Linighan, P. Whelan, R. Thompson - S. Palmer, G. Williams, J. Hunt, S. Whetton - P. Goddard, C. Rowan. Referee: J. Wignall.

## Dolan works cut-price wonders

CLUB chairmen in the middle-to-lower reaches of the Endleigh Insurance League often demand the impossible of their managers.

Mounting debt, little money for players and meagre crowds are no excuses: promotion is expected, quickly, or you move on.

Terry Dolan, whose club, Hull City, gained a stirring 4-3 away success at Cardiff on Saturday, is well acquainted with frugal living and he specialises in success in the slow lane.

He revived Bradford City, taking them to within a point of the then first division in 1988. Then he lifted Rochdale from 22nd place to ninth in the old fourth division during a dizzy 14 months' spell at Spotland, which also included a first appearance in the FA Cup fifth round.

Dolan, 43, is now working the oracle at Hull City amid familiar surroundings. The cheque book has gathered dust since he took over at Boothferry Park 2½ years ago, with fresh talent having to be

Russell Kempson talks to the manager who last bought players more than two years ago

begged or borrowed. "I haven't spent a penny on players," he said. "I haven't been able to."

When Dolan arrived from Rochdale, the club was £1 million in the red, losing £10,000 a week and had a playing staff of 30. Good husbandry has trimmed the figures to £150,000, £2,000 and 16 respectively but the bank lists yet does not hear.

"I'd love to sign someone," he said. "I'd love to strengthen the side and I'm sure the time is right to speculate. If we could extend the overdraft, I could do something. Unfortunately, I can't tell the financial people what to do."

Having spent all his years in the backwoods - he played for Bradford Park Avenue, Huddersfield Town, Bradford City and Rochdale - Dolan has become accustomed to the frustration.

Realism also plays a part and Dolan has always readily accepted his lot, however grim. His playing career ended when he was released by Rochdale. "When you get a free from Rochdale, you know you've got to seriously consider your future," he said.

At Hull, he has scraped together a mixture of youngsters, more mature minds and a couple of part-timers. Loan players, their wages paid by local businesses, are brought in as and when required.

It is a potent brew, at present. With their weekend success over last season's third division champions, Hull took

over at the head of the second. Three times they trailed, three times they equalised, extending their unbeaten start with a flourish.

No goals for Windass, who had scored nine in five matches since pushed forward from his usual midfield role. An outrageous 40-yard lob sailed only inches wide and a powerful 30-yard free kick went equally close.

But two from Lee, a part-time accountant, one from Moran, the former Southampton striker, and a last-minute winner from Bound propelled Hull to the top.

"We made a similar start last season and then went backwards," Dolan said. "We ended up narrowly avoiding relegation but that won't happen again. We're a better team now." Success on a shoe-string? Send for Dolan.

Cardiff City (4-1-3-2): R. James, J. Perry, K. Randle, D. Stacey, G. Gormley - C. Gormley, D. Stacey, N. Balle - P. Sturt, G. Thompson. HULL CITY (4-4-2): D. Seaman - N. Alison, M. Bound, G. Harrison - J. Blythe, A. Frost, G. Lee, G. Ashworth - D. Hoggan, G. Moran. Referee: G. Singh.







Bristol's defeat by old rivals another reverse after summer of discontent

# Battling Bath win war of attrition

David Hands watches the league champions come out on top in a West Country derby

BACK in the mists of time Bristol were accustomed to beating their near-neighbours regularly. Now, though, ship-shape and Bristol-fashion is not the most apt expression to apply to the rugby club that is undergoing another turbulent year.

Two extraordinary general meetings, a vote of no confidence in the committee and the loss of two coaches suggest a summer of discontent with the team, seemingly, the most settled area. They remain short of a chief coach, now that Mike Davis has removed himself from the list of runners, and the name of Rob Smith, the Bristolian who has devoted himself to the cause of Wasps, is being canvassed, though far too late in the day. If only life for the club were as simple and straightforward as Derek Eves seems to make it as a player: Eves, now in his fourth season as captain, leads by example which, in his case, is 100 per cent perspiration. But to beat Bath, even on one of their few bad days, needs more than that, and Bristol have managed it only once in the past 11 years.

Since the inception of the Courage Clubs Championship they have not managed it at all, and Saturday at the Memorial Ground was one more gloomy league statistic they rocked the champions, but Bath's record remained intact in an 18-10 victory achieved with a goal, a try and two penalty goals to a goal and a penalty.

Well, nearly intact. If their attrition rate remains this high, Bath will need all their strength in depth. The physio-therapist was constantly on the field, and Bath used their three replacements, straying once into dubious ethical terri-



Bracken, the Bristol scrum half, whips the ball away from the toes of Haag, the Bath second-row forward, on Saturday

tory when Richard Hill made that, had Bath not had another scrum half as replacement, he could have stayed on: no doubt Rowell, in the brief exchange which took place, made sure that Hill could remain until Bath moved away from the danger zone and, two minutes later, he was replaced. But doctors around the ground may have chewed their lips at whether the well-being of the team should appear to come before the health of the individual player.

Late in the day Andy Robinson should have been told to leave the field by David Matthews, the referee, as blood oozed from his already-battered head. If these regulations for player-safety are to mean anything then they must be enforced. The string of other minor casualties suggests a spiteful encounter which, at times, it was: a throwback to local rivalry and percentage football during which Bristol's plan to stop Ben Clarke and Stuart Barnes worked effectively. Bath, though, have many strings to their bow, and this

time it was Mike Catt, who scored both Bath tries, who caught the eye. Catt, from Port Elizabeth, has played for Eastern Province in South Africa but has an English qualification through his mother and toured with the England under-21 party in Australia last summer. Neither John Hall, the Bath captain, nor Rowell was happy with the error count, the coach worrying particularly about the lineup, where Simon Shaw kept Bristol in contention.

Up against a back row as disorientated as Newcastle's, it was difficult for a younger Orrell pack not to shine in the open spaces. The test will come when on the back foot, although the freedom allowed Peacock, a late stand-in for Ainscough, at stand-off, to demonstrate his attacking potential, and Naylor, another 19-year-old making his league debut, to show his clean finishing with two tries on the right wing.

Really washed over the new boys like a cold shower. Ball-winning does not come easily in the top flight, and Newcastle were generous in handing over the little possession they did earn.

Ball-winning does not come easily in the top flight, and Newcastle were generous in handing over the little possession they did earn.

Newcastle yield to touch of travel sickness

Christopher Irvine reports on an inauspicious debut in the first division

TO SURVIVE their debut season in the first division of the Courage Clubs Championship, Newcastle Gosforth intend to make life unpleasant for visitors to Kingston Park. Their 42-12 defeat at Orrell on Saturday, however, suggests a susceptibility to travel sickness.

Unless Newcastle can frustrate Gloucester at home next weekend, as they did in the Pilkington Cup last season, there is every likelihood they will join West Hartlepool, Liverpool St Helens and Rugby as clubs to slide straight back into the second division. Mixing with the privileged few is difficult, especially when the resources for a big squad are lacking. Yet the elite, with little development of their own, cannot dismiss the smaller clubs on which they rely for stock.

The North remains England's most fertile breeding ground but cannot hold many of its players because of what Des Seabrook, the Orrell rugby chairman, calls the lure of "bigger and more fashionable southern clubs". Thus, John Fletcher, the England A centre, left Tynedale not for neighbouring Newcastle but Northampton, along with the stand-off half, Paul Grayson, from Waterloo.

Orrell remain an anachronism. Survival, as last season indicated, is getting harder, and should Dewi Morris ever head down the M6, the Lancashire club would find the going rough. Against Newcastle, the England scrum half scored two tries and instigated three others.

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Grayson on target to capture Cooke's attention

Andrew Longmore on a young half back making a stirring start for Northampton

IF GEOFF Cooke, the England manager, went to Franklin's Gardens to cast an eye over candidates for the England back row, he left with the overwhelming impression of a tall, elegant stand-off half barely out of short trousers in his rugby education. Neil Back, Dean Richards and Tim Rodber, restored to No 8 now that Wayne Shelford has returned to New Zealand, did little wrong, but none caught the eye as sharply as Paul Grayson, the young, much-heralded stand-off making his league debut for Northampton.

From uncertain beginnings, Grayson emerged to dominate a match won 19-10 by Northampton, keeping Leicester on the back foot for much of the second half with the power of his boot. Grayson, the whistler has it, is the Mike Atherton of the rugby world. A Future England Captain they call him, and if that label does not bury him without trace, he will deserve every accolade his considerable talent demands. There are certainly similarities in tone if not looks.

Like Atherton, Grayson is a Lancastrian, and like Atherton, he is articulate and exudes an inner confidence. His first love was association football — like Atherton, he still supports Manchester United — and he played for Accrington Stanley before discovering rugby with Preston Grasshoppers. From there, he graduated to Waterloo and Northampton and a first taste of senior international rugby on the England tour of Canada, though he did not play in either of the internationals.

A total of 39 points in the opening two matches of the season suggested that Grayson's reputation had not been inflated. But a debut against last season's Pilkington Cup winners was a supreme test of character for the 22-year-old, who must have prayed for time to find his feet but found himself rushed off them with five penalties in the opening half an hour, two of which he kicked.

Grayson's response to adversity was a third penalty that stretched Northampton's lead to 12-3 early in the second half and a neat dribble that allowed Packman to score and effectively seal the game.

SCORERS: Northampton: Try: Packman. Penalties: Grayson (3). Gloucester: Try: Packman. Penalties: Grayson (3). Gloucester: Try: Packman. Penalties: Grayson (3).

## Corless satisfied

BARRIE Corless could not have chosen a more public way of showing he is in the driving seat as director of rugby at Gloucester than by accepting delivery of a car from the club's sponsor in the centre of the pitch before his side drew 9-9 with Wasps in their opening Courage Clubs Championship match on Saturday (Bryan Stiles writes).

It was a bit of razzmatazz that highlighted the changing face of rugby at Kingsholm for the no-nonsense supporters who like their rugby raw and meaty, but by the end Corless was convinced that Gloucester should have won.

That said, he was satisfied with the draw, as were Wasps, whose team was disrupted by the absence of Oli Ryan, Bates, and Emeruwa.

"We played like a team that is not used to winning,"

Corless said. A lack of tactical awareness and confidence cost Gloucester victory.

Corless feels that Gloucester need to develop the club's home-grown talent and nurture players who want to join them from local clubs. The colts and under-21 teams will be given a higher priority under his guidance.

For Wasps, Skinner, at stand-in scrum half, produced a fast and accurate service for Andrew and kicked intelligently in a game littered with mistakes and a surfeit of early-season nerves.

SCORERS: Gloucester: Penalties: T. Smith (2). Gloucester: Penalties: T. Smith (2). Gloucester: Penalties: T. Smith (2).

## Cross Keys put Swansea on mettle

Gerald Davies admires the efforts of a club trying to establish itself in the top flight

THE long strips of valleys north of Newport represented, before the mercuriality of leagues moved in, the thickest conglomeration of what was thought to be first-class clubs.

Seven clubs accounted for almost half of Wales' major clubs. But such a concentration of established influence could hardly have expected to survive the reformation which the Heineken League signalled. Whereas Ebbw Vale and Aberdare, with better past credentials, are now in the second division, it is the more modest Cross Keys who reside in the first with Newbridge and Pontypool.

If Pontypool have experienced an exodus of players, Cross Keys have welcomed new arrivals. That they have done so in no small measure thanks to the coach, Benny Jones, a former Pontypool

player who, three decades ago, was regarded as one of the finest stand-off halves not to have played for Wales. He returned four years ago to assist with coaching under Mike Ruddock, now Swansea's successful director of coaching.

In the first three league matches played in eight days, the coaches have made sweeping changes from one match to the next. "I want to be fair to the players who have elected to come here," Jones said. "I give them a good crack of the whip, I also want to know who the best players are before settling on a squad."

Ruddock has a similar policy but different ambitions.

With 12 changes from Swansea's midweek match, he wants to spread the load throughout a squad which, even with this stuttering performance, will be challenging for the top position again.

At the start of both halves, the home team gave the visitors cause for concern. But Swansea, who did not have a monopoly on running attack, had the more impressive armoury in the lineout and scrum. A lineup expert will be the first priority for Jones and Cross Keys.

Their has been a hard luck story so far, losing narrowly to Newport and Bridgend. Although it might have been against the run of play, they

might have succeeded had they picked up their chances here, too. No sooner had Withers, a cheeky, skilful stand-off half, who took risks like his mentor, given his team a lead from a penalty than they allowed Swansea to respond immediately with a try to give them a half-time lead.

There were also impressive attacks after the interval, but no points came their way. Swansea, never comfortable, scored two more lovely converted tries to win.

SCORERS: Cross Keys: Penalties: Jones (2). Swansea: Try: Davies. Penalties: Jones (2). Swansea: Try: Davies. Penalties: Jones (2).

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# EDUCATION

Last year's employment prospects were the bleakest for a decade and this year's are proving little better — even for scientists

## Graduates still have a job finding work

When Granada Television recently advertised a number of traineeships for this year's crop of graduates, it received more than 6,000 replies. A handful of the best and brightest will eventually get their feet on the television ladder at Granada. But by the end of the year, a good many of the unsuccessful applicants probably still will not have a proper job, or a clear idea of where they are heading.

The job outlook for this year's graduates is not much brighter than it was for last year's, who, according to the Universities Statistical Record, were confronted with the poorest job prospects for a decade. Gwyn Johnson, deputy director of Leeds University's careers service, says: "We are still gathering information but the indications are that this is an extremely difficult year."

Metropolitan University and is living off £33 a week unemployment benefit while he looks for a job. His first choice is television but he would settle for personnel or advertising.

He has applied for 20 to 30 advertised jobs and fired off letters to employers he would like to work for, but so far has got nowhere.

"Of those I was at college with, about 20 to 30 per cent have got jobs, but doing anything, like room service in hotels, or door-to-door sales. "Everyone is looking for experience, but how can you get experience without work?"

**'Employers are able to pick and choose. I just want to get my foot in the door'**

Lisa Douek, 22, of Barnet, Herts, has just graduated from Wimbledon School of Art with a BA in Theatre Design. Like many of her contemporaries, she is currently working for nothing. She and a friend have designed a production of Mike Leigh's *Abigail's Party* for the Troy Theatre Company, which went to the Edinburgh Festival and is transferring to London.

"It's all good experience and if the play's a success, maybe we'll get paid something," she says. "My general impression is that if you want the work badly enough, it's there."

Nicola Ward, 21, from Blackpool, has a BA in History with Expressive Arts from Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Further Education. She started applying for jobs in retail management last Christmas, while in her final year, but drew a blank. Since graduating in July, she has unsuccessfully applied for 33 jobs. Now she has set her sights lower, on media sales, and has three interviews pending.

"A lot of people come out with a 2:1 and think they'll walk into a job, but it's just not like that any more. Employers can pick and choose. I just want to get my foot in the door."

Armed with a BA in Administration and Social Policy from the University of Plymouth, Iain Forbes, 21, of Macclesfield, Cheshire, thought he had a secure future when he was accepted by Greater Manchester Police for its accelerated promotion scheme. But he failed the medical, a verdict he is challenging. He has applied elsewhere in the public sector, such as customs and excise and local government.

"All I have to do is get to the interview stage, but that's a problem in itself."

Many students have opted for postgraduate studies in the hope that things will be looking up when they finish. But the same thing happened last year. The result is that students who already have put off the job search for 12 months are now looking, making things even more difficult for this year's graduates.



Lisa Douek has been forced to take unpaid work in theatre design

With the tide of graduate unemployment showing little sign of receding, aspiring students will look increasingly closely at job prospects before choosing a university. The messages they are given will be far from clear.

Ministers agree that the nation needs more scientists, and weight the system accordingly. University careers advisers counter that scientists face the same difficulties as the rest.

The fate of last year's graduates from the traditional universities seems to support the advisers. By the turn of the year, more mathematicians and physicists were still looking for work or further study than were social scientists or graduates in business or financial studies. Even the supposedly unemployable arts and humanities graduates were only marginally worse off than most scientists.

Tom Frank, who chairs the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services, says: "It is total nonsense to say that there is a national shortage of scientists. First-rate physicists are having trouble getting jobs, and the proportion of graduates getting science-related jobs is tiny."

Yet technological universities have filled most of the top places in tables of graduate employment for many years. Although the trend is not so marked in the latest statistics, published last week, there is no doubting the relative success of

universities such as Bath and Surrey, where most students are taking engineering or science.

The confusion appears again, however, over what exactly is being measured. Comparing employment rates, for example, ignores the many graduates going on to courses of training or further study.

The table below attempts to even out such effects by ranking universities on the proportion of British graduates in employment or further study and training. No distinction is made between permanent and short-term jobs, but careers advisers are finding that the difference is increasingly academic.

Ulster, a largely technological university, was particularly successful at getting graduates straight into work, while the other Northern Ireland university, Queen's, Belfast, had an unusually large proportion going on to further study.

In England, the technological universities continued to do well, but London graduates appeared to face particular difficulties. Goldsmiths' College had fewer than half of last year's graduates in jobs or studying by the turn of the year. Even famous names such as University College and the London School of Economics find themselves near the foot of the table.

The new universities have yet to publish their figures for last year, but they are expected to make bleak reading.

JOHN O'LEARY

THE UNIVERSITY JOBS LEAGUE				
University	1992 graduates	% in jobs, study or training	University	1992 graduates
Queen's, Belfast	1813	84.0	Newcastle	1947
Ulster	1770	83.5	Sheff Hall	849
Surrey	732	83.1	Hull	1430
Brunel	523	83.1	Bangor	875
Aston	816	81.7	City	577
Bath	529	80.9	Ulster	885
Lampeter	248	80.8	East Anglia	1040
Dundee	742	80.6	Leeds	2963
Oxford	2795	80.4	Cambridge	3837
Aberdeen	1119	80.2	Manchester	2262
Strathclyde	1592	79.2	Reading	1435
Warwick	1678	78.7	Lancaster	1318
St Andrews	837	78.6	Cardiff	1847
Durham	1458	78.2	Essex	876
Exeter	1370	78.2	Salford	942
Aberystwyth	801	78.0	Nottingham	1877
Herts-Wall	533	77.7	Sussex	1052
Loughborough	1304	77.2	Swansea	1355
Sheffield	2002	77.1	King's (London)	1221
Bedford	557	77.1	Kent	924
Liverpool	2149	77.1	Lancaster	1182
Keele	801	76.7	Southampton	1687
Glasgow	2183	76.3	R Hullway (Lon)	511
Bristol	1850	75.8	Queen Mary (Lon)	949
Birmingham	2241	75.7	UCL (London)	1977
York	1037	75.6	UWE (London)	499
Imperial (London)	897	75.5	Birkbeck (London)	244
Edinburgh	2014	75.4	Goldsmiths (Lon)	624



The disappointment of seeing his chosen career in doubt has prompted Iain Forbes to try elsewhere, and hope something is available through the local jobcentre



Lisa Douek has been forced to take unpaid work in theatre design

The supremacy of girls' schools in last week's GCSE tables makes reassuring reading. After a year's deliberation about my daughter's future, it seems that we may after all have made the right decision.

My daughter Anna was 15 when she succumbed to location fatigue. Cruising comfortably towards GCSEs at the local girls' comprehensive, she suddenly decided last autumn that she was bored. Very bored. Fed up with the prospect of two years in the sixth form at the same boring school with the same boring teachers studying the same boring subjects. Her words, not mine. The school has an enviable reputation: I could not think of a better environment for her sixth-form years.

I had to bite my tongue. Bored after only five years at the same school? You

## My daughter's hunt for greener grass

Anna was 15 and bored at her all-girls school. Would a mixed sixth form make the difference?

should try working, my little one, to know what real boredom is. She suggested alternatives, some imaginative (nun), some outrageous (marriage), some unfeasible (croupier: her mathematical ability rivals her vocabulary). I preached perseverance, rhapsodising unconvincingly about rich rewards born of suffering. Sensing defeat, I muttered defiantly about character-forming experiences. Finally, I ranted. She sulked and threatened to opt out completely.

The way forward seemed to be to let

her test options and reach her own conclusion. Together we embarked on a turbulent but worthwhile journey. First we visited the local further education college where some of her more adventurous friends were heading. The verdict? Too unstructured. Next came other neighbourhood schools. Spanish, French and human biology A levels? No, sorry. Too small to offer such an idiosyncratic choice.

Then we explored new territory: independent schools, unfried and, for us,

probably unaffordable. The local boys' day school, academically sound, held considerable allure for Anna, who would be one of only a score of girls among a couple of hundred boys. We met Emily, 17, who came from an all-girls school and has completed her first year at the boys' school. She is happy and doing well but told ominous stories in which even politically incorrect Anna detected disturbing hints of sexism. Like the biology field trip on which Emily was the only girl: the master in charge

took along his wife and daughters in case Emily had "personal problems", and told her that while the boys played football, she could play netball.

Having embraced, albeit unrealistically, the concept of paying, we tried boarding schools. Too pony-ish was the problem this time — the sixth-form girls seemed to do an awful lot of braying. Minority group survival tactics, perhaps? We talked to Charlotte, 18, who has just finished at one of Britain's top public schools. It has a healthy boy-girl

ratio of 2:1 in the sixth form. Once the cattle market atmosphere of the first week had subsided, she insisted, she relished every minute of her two years. "My brother was there, and I moved there for the science teaching, and the extra-curricular music and sport." A shy girl from an all-girls day school, her blossoming confidence proves that the benefits of transferring can be real.

Sorting through these myriad impressions, Anna finally made up her mind. After an enlightening journey, she is now confident that she is taking the next step positively, rather than apathetically. Location fatigue has been swept aside by a wave of enthusiasm.

She's staying. I'm incredibly relieved. And so, I think, is she.

SUSAN STURROCK

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## School of Combined Studies

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Computing  
Human Resource Management  
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Law  
Mathematical Sciences  
Marketing  
Psychology

## School of Computing and Mathematical Sciences

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Computer Systems for Business  
Computing  
Business Information Systems  
Management Science  
Mathematics  
Software Engineering

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Graphic Design (Lincoln College)  
Industrial Design (Engineering)  
Knitwear Design and Production  
Textiles  
Textile and Apparel

## School of Engineering and Manufacture

Electrical Engineering  
Electronic Engineering  
Electronics and Physics  
Engineering  
Industrial Design Engineering  
Industrial and Business Systems  
Mechanical Engineering

## School of Health and Life Sciences

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Applied Social and Community Studies  
Biotechnology  
Community Education  
Health Visiting  
Nursing (Mental Health)  
Science (Applied Biology)  
Science and the Environment  
Youth and Community Development

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Law  
Law with French  
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0645.454647

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- BA(Hons) International Office Management
- HND International Office Management
- BA(Hons) Leisure Management
- HND Leisure Studies
- HND Travel & Tourism

TEL: \*0494 603073 / \*\*0494 603074 (9 - 4.30pm Weekdays)

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- HND Computing
- BSc(Hons) Information Systems for Business in Europe
- DESIGN
- BSc Furniture Production
- ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY
- BSc(Hons) Computer Aided Design
- Manufacture
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Written questions of terms and conditions are available from  
Bursars, the Co-operative and Cheltenham Banks on request.

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SEPTEMBER & JANUARY ENTRY  
The European Business School in London is a prestigious private institution of higher education which offers a range of BA(Hons) business degrees, each with a strong multinational focus, but with varying levels of business, language and work experience content.

- Master up to three commercially used languages (chosen from French, German, Italian, Russian Spanish and Japanese).
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- Study Marketing, Finance, Leadership skills, and explore how to be a manager and an entrepreneur.
- Live on a cosmopolitan campus in the heart of London, in the magnificent surroundings of Regent's Park.

Contact: Karen Jones, F45, European Business School, Regent's College, Regent's Park, London NW1 4NS. Tel: (071) 487 7452.

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POSTS

# A Key Role in Education Reform

School Curriculum and Assessment Authority Professional Officers - Salary up to £38,000

The School Curriculum and Assessment Authority will be established in October 1993. Based in London it will:

- advise the Secretary of State for Education on all aspects of the curriculum and its associated assessment;
- be responsible for the administration of national testing arrangements and the approval of public examination syllabuses;
- manage consultations on future changes to the National Curriculum;
- support schools in the implementation of the National Curriculum and its assessment.

**Appointments:** Professional Officers in SCAA will have a major role in the development of the curriculum and assessment for specific National Curriculum subjects and will also make a contribution to a range of other professional issues. We are looking for:

- 1 Professional Officer in **Mathematics** with particular expertise in Mathematics for Key Stages 1 and 2;
- 2 Professional Officers in **Science**;
- 2 Professional Officers in **English**;
- 2 Professional Officers in **Modern Foreign Languages**.

The successful candidates will have excellent teaching experience and the ability to make a creative contribution to the development of the curriculum and assessment in their subjects. They will be persuasive communicators both orally and in writing and will have the ability to work in close co-operation with others in a complex matrix organisation.

**Salary:** Salary will be in the range of £27,300 to £38,000 including an Inner London Allowance. More may be available for an exceptional candidate. Other benefits include a non-contributory pension scheme and relocation assistance up to a maximum of £5,000 where appropriate.

The posts will be offered on a fixed-term (renewable) contract basis, normally for an initial period of three years.

For further details and an application form, to be returned by 1st October 1993, write to Mick Woolley, The Establishment Unit for SCAA, Newcombe House, 45 Notting Hill Gate, London W11 3JB or telephone 071-243 9365.

The SCAA will be an equal opportunities employer. Applications are welcome from all sections of the community.

**Dates of Appointment:** Successful candidates will be expected to take up post as soon as possible.

## PRIOR PARK PREPARATORY SCHOOL

A Catholic, Co-Education, Boarding and Day School for 200 pupils aged 7 - 13

### HEADSHIP

Following the announcement of the retirement of Mr J. E. Bogie, the Governors invite applications from suitably experienced graduates for the headship, from September 1994, of this flourishing Preparatory School set in the Wiltshire town of Cricklade. Swindon is 6 miles away. The school has recently undergone a major building and refurbishment programme and more developments are currently planned. The appointment will be made in December 1993. Details of the post and method of application may be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors, Prior Park College Trustees Ltd, Bath, Avon, BA2 5AH.

Closing date for applications 15 October 1993

## University of Cambridge

### SLADE PROFESSORSHIP OF FINE ART 1995-96

Applications invited for the above Visiting Professorship issuable from 1 October 1995 (normally a one-year appointment).

**Requirement:** 12 lectures in the History, Theory and Practice of the Fine Arts (up to 4 of the lectures may be replaced by classes).

No requirement of residence.

Present stipend £6,671 a year.

Further information from the Secretary General of the Faculty, General Board Office, The Old Schools, Cambridge CB2 1TT. Applications (10 copies) to him by 18 October 1993.

The University follows an equal opportunities policy.



### FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE HEAD

The Governors invite applications for the Headship of Framlingham College, which will become vacant on 1st September 1994 following the appointment of the current Headmaster, Mr J. F. X. Miller MA, to be Headmaster of Newcastle Royal Grammar School from that date.

Details of the post may be obtained from:

Mr R. L. Morris

The Clerk to the Governors

Framlingham College

Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 9EY

The closing date for applications is 24th September 1993

## THE GLASGOW ACADEMY

Applications are invited for the post of RECTOR



on the retirement of the present Rector, Mr Colin Turner, in August 1994.

The Glasgow Academy, established in 1845, is an HMC co-educational school of approximately 1,000 pupils. Founded as a boys' school it merged with Westbourne School for Girls in 1991.

In carrying responsibility for the educational standards of The Academy applicants for the post will need to demonstrate clear leadership and administrative skills.

Further particulars and an application form are available from The Rector, The Glasgow Academy, Colebrooke Street, Glasgow G12 8HE. Applications are required by Wednesday, 6th October, 1993. Tel: 041 334 8558.

The Glasgow Academy is an educational charity registered in Scotland 11313.

## SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

### OFFICE OF BURSAR AND STEWARD

The College intends to make an election to the combined offices of Bursar and Steward, the person appointed to join the College 1 February 1994 or as soon as possible thereafter. He or she will then work with the present Bursar and Steward, assuming the full responsibilities on 1 April 1994. The successful applicant will be elected simultaneously to a Fellowship of the College and will be an ex officio member of the College Council.

The Bursar and Steward is responsible to the College Council for all the financial and administrative aspects of the College's life and is centrally involved in all College policy and planning. He or she is also directly involved in budgeting and expenditure control, catering and accounts, buildings, financial and estates policy, assistant staff, conferences and appeals. It is also the intention of the College to create shortly a new post of assistant to the Bursar and Steward who will assume some of the immediate responsibilities for a range of the domestic duties.

The stipend will be within the range of £27,000 - £35,000 p.a. and the election is for three years in the first instance, with eligibility for re-election for successive periods not exceeding five years at any one time. Further written particulars are available from the Master's Secretary.

Applications (10 copies), should be sent to the Master, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge CB2 3HU, tel (0223) 338800, fax (0223) 338884, as soon as possible and should reach him by 22 October 1993 at the latest. Applications should be accompanied by a full curriculum vitae and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of not more than three referees, whom the College can contact immediately. Testimonials should not be sent.

The College is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

SCHOLARSHIPS



## RUGBY SCHOOL

welcomes applications for **SIXTH FORM SCHOLARSHIPS** for entrance in September 1994

Enjoy two years in a School which values its tradition and has superb modern facilities, a friendly atmosphere, and a forward-looking approach.

A substantial number of Scholarships for boys and girls (possibly augmented to full fees) is available. A very wide range of A level subjects including Design, Business Studies, Philosophy and Politics is on offer.

Applications should be received by 4th October 1993

Ian Barlow, the Registrar, will be pleased to provide further details and a prospectus please telephone him on 0788 537035

Rugby School is a Registered Charity for the purpose of providing education.

## BRADFIELD Boys' and Girls' Sixth Form Entrance Scholarships

A number of awards (if necessary augmented up to full fees) will be made for entrance in September 1994. Admission by interview and competitive examination to be held in November 1993.

Further details and a prospectus may be obtained from:

The Sixth Form Admissions Secretary  
Bradfield College  
Reading  
Berkshire RG7 8AU  
Tel: 0734 744202

RESEARCH POSTS

## JAPAN FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE GRANTS FOR RESEARCH

The annual income from a donation made by the Japan Foundation is available for disbursement by a Committee established under the auspices of the former UGC, specifically for promotion of the academic subject of Japanese Studies in degree-awarding institutions within the UK. In 1992 the Committee revised its method of operation, and now only invites applications for small grants for the support of research; it should be noted that grants are normally unlikely to exceed £2,000, and that most will be substantially smaller. Student coursework cannot be funded.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Secretary, Japan Foundation Endowment Committee, c/o the University of Sheffield, P.O. Box 594, Sheffield S10 2UH, by whom completed applications must be received by Friday 29th October 1993.

## ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL LEATHERHEAD BURSAR

and Secretary to the Council

The Governors wish to appoint for 1st March 1994 a successor to Lt. Cdr. M.J.M. Albrow who retires in April 1994 after 18 years service. The successful candidate should have administrative ability and experience of financial and personnel management. The post is non residential. Full details and application form may be obtained from the Bursar, St. John's School, Epsom Road, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8SP.

Closing date for applications 5th October 1993.

## UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA U.S.A.

### THOURON AWARDS

Under the Foundation of St. John Thuron and the late Lady Thuron, applications are invited for the THOURON AWARDS for 1994. From successful candidates for the THOURON AWARDS each of the value of \$500 per month plus tuition fees of around \$14,000 and bursary for one or two years from 1 September 1994. At the prospective level also requested department of study Technology. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, U.S.A. Prospective candidates should send a stamped (24p) and addressed 10" x 7" envelope to the Registrar (Thuron Awards) University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, U.S.A. 19104-6302.

### EDUCATIONAL COURSES REVIEW

St. Elmo's College & Business School (England) 1, 2007, Weymouth, Dorset DT99 1PH. Prospective students should send a stamped (24p) and addressed 10" x 7" envelope to the Registrar (Thuron Awards) University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, U.S.A. 19104-6302.

EDUCATION



## REGENT'S COLLEGE

Regent's Park London

## EDUCATIONAL USER SPACE AVAILABLE

2000 to 7000 Sq. Ft. (approx. 200-700 Sq. Metres.)

Regent's College is a fully serviced campus with approximately 1100 European and international students. It is set in 11 acres of its own grounds and is situated on Inner Circle within Regent's Park.

Features include:

- Full Refectory
- Library
- 200 Bed Dormitory
- Security Services
- Catering Service
- Student Centre
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- Car Parking facilities.

For information write to the President's Office, Regent's College, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London NW1 4NS.

COURSES

## LANGUAGES AT NAPIER

### BA/BA (HONS) EXPORT STUDIES AND LANGUAGES

This 3 or 4 year course combines the study of French, or German (or Spanish from minimum O/GCSE level) with Export Practice, Marketing, Finance, Economics, Business Information Systems, and Law. A second language is studied normally "from scratch," eg Italian.

As part of the course you will also undertake 8 weeks residence and a 12 week work placement in a company in France, Germany or Spain.

This combination of studies and experience will equip you for a career in exporting to Europe.

Entry qualifications should include 3 Highers (including English and normally a B pass in your main language) or 2 GCSE A level passes (including a language). Your 5 subject passes should include English and Maths.

For further information and an application form contact: The Information Office, Napier University, FREEPOST, Edinburgh EH14 0PA. Tel: 031-455 4330 or call the PROSPECTUS HOTLINE on 031-455 4356.

FOR ENTRY IN SEPTEMBER, 1993 APPLY DIRECT TO NAPIER.

## NAPIER UNIVERSITY

EDINBURGH

## LECTURESHIPS

### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

#### BOARD OF THE FACULTY OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

In conjunction with the

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University Lecturer in Computation and Continuing Education in Association with Rewley House

Salary range £13,601 - £26,803 per annum

The University invites applications for this new University Lectureship in Computation and Continuing Education from candidates who are well-qualified academically in computation, who have experience and expertise in the development and delivery of continuing professional development courses in computation and software engineering, and a proven teaching and research record in the field of computation. Responsibilities will be divided in equal measure between the Computing Laboratory and the Department for Continuing Education. His or her duties will be under the joint aegis of the Board of the Faculty of Mathematical Sciences and the Committee on Continuing Education, and under the direction of the Director of the Computing Laboratory and the Director of the Department for Continuing Education.

The appointment will be made as soon as possible, and will carry with it a Fellowship of Rewley House. Letters of Applications (ten copies except from candidates overseas who need send only one), including a curriculum vitae, a list of principal publications, and names addresses and fax numbers of two referees, should be sent no later than 15 October 1993.

Applications should be sent to Dr David Bryan, Assistant Registrar, University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JD (telephone 0865 270803), from whom further particulars may be obtained.

The University is an Equal Opportunity Employer

## THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

### LECTURER IN THEOLOGY

The Department of Theology in the University of Nottingham aims at a balance in teaching and research between the three broad areas of biblical studies, Christian Theology, and religious studies. This new post has been granted primarily to add support in the third area but also to interact with, and contribute to, the second area which also carries a heavy load.

Applications are therefore invited from candidates with proven research in one or more of the following fields: the theology of religion; theology, religion, and society; religious and modern theology. The appointment will commence on 1 February, or on a date before October 1994 to be agreed.

The appointee must be committed to research, publication, efficient teaching and academic administration. Salary on the Lecturer scale £13,801-£25,107 per annum. Initial salary will not exceed £16,592 per annum.

Further details and application forms, returnable not later than 19 October, from the Personnel Office, The University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD (Tel: 0502 515788, fax: 0502 515208). Ref No 1690.

## University of London British Postgraduate Medical Federation South East Thames Region

### TENDERS INVITED

The Dean of Postgraduate Medicine for the South East Thames Region of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation invites organisations and individuals with a strong track record in educational and curriculum management and development to tender for Development Projects on:

- The Professional Role of Clinical Tutors
- Supporting the Training of SHO's
- Improving PRHO Training
- Introducing Service-Based Learning
- Quality for Postgraduate Medical Centres
- Auditing Postgraduate Medical Education

Further particulars are available from Dr Z J Playdon, Education Adviser, South East Thames Region, BPMF, 33 Millman Street, London WC1N 3EJ

Telephone: 071 831 6222

## DEGREE COURSES

Earn a Bachelor's, Master's or Doctorate degree by utilising your life and work experience. No residency required. Full credits are allocated for all work and life achievements. There are no formal examinations. We will help you obtain the vital degree qualification entirely by distance learning. Our programme is directed at self-motivated men and women who have already moved some distance towards their own goals.

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## INDEPENDENT EDUCATION

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#### OPEN DAY

For Prospective 1994 Lower Sixth Girls Applicants and their Parents at

## WELLINGTON COLLEGE

Saturday 18th September 1993

starting at 2.15 pm

For further details please contact:

The Registrar, Wellington College,

Crowthorne, Berkshire, RG11 7PU

Tel: 0344 771588

## BENENDEN SCHOOL

BOARDING SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AGED 11 TO 18 YEARS

### SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SEPTEMBER 1994 ENTRY

Applications are invited from

Sixth Form and Lower School Scholarships candidates

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For Academic, Music and Art Scholarships, candidates should apply by 29 October 1993

### LOWER SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Academic and Music Scholarships for those under the age of 14 on 1 September 1994, candidates should apply by 20 December 1993

For a prospectus and application form: THE ADMISSIONS SECRETARY, BENENDEN SCHOOL, CRANBROOK, KENT TN11 7AA TELEPHONE (0580) 240484

BENENDEN SCHOOL IS A CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF GIRLS

## EDUCATION COURSES REVIEW

### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

#### M.A. International Studies & Diplomacy

Full-time or part-time (evenings)

A new programme, offered from October 1993, for the diplomatic community and other professional and business people with international interests.

Course options, embracing academic disciplines, and professional practice include: 'International Relations' 'International Law' 'International Economics' 'General Diplomatic Studies & Practice' 'Area Studies' 'Languages'.

For further information please contact: Tim Osborn Jones, School of Oriental and African Studies, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG. Telephone: 071-637 2388 (x2595) Fax: 071-637 7355.

EDUCATION COURSES REVIEW

### RESIT GCSE and 'A' LEVELS

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**TELEVISION page 34**  
Lauren Bacall, who was  
'a nice surprise' in  
BBC 1's *A Foreign Field*,  
with Sir Alec Guinness

# ARTS

**BOOKS page 35**

Man's natural state? A  
History of Warfare, by  
John Keegan, reviewed  
by Peter Ackroyd



## Carving a novel out of short stories

**David Robinson, reporting from the fiftieth Venice Film Festival, part of the Biennale, finds the Europeans' efforts outshone by the Americans'**

The Venice Film Festival (correctly titled "Exhibition of Cinematographic Art") and a department of the great Venetian Art Biennale has had a turbulent history, with frequent interruptions by dictatorships, war and lesser political upsets. This at least has the advantage of providing handy pegs for commemorations. Last year, for instance, Venice commemorated the sixtieth anniversary of the first festival. This year they were able to fête the fiftieth edition of the event.

The melancholy surrounding the 1993 festival was not entirely accountable to over-cast skies and persistent rain, which never flatter the Lido beaches; nor even to the austerity due both to recession and fiscal paranoia in the wake of Italy's corruption scandals.

Rather there was the inescapable sense of the poverty of a European film culture that has given up all attempt to compete with the power and popularity of American cinema. Venice was traditionally the great showplace of European cinema, with a succession of directors such as Carné, Clair, Renoir, Truffaut, De Sica, Fellini, Rossellini, Visconti, Pasolini, Resnais, and Fassbinder. This year's festival, though, would have been a pitiful show without the Americans.

The undisputed stars were led by Steven Spielberg and *Jurassic Park*. Martin Scorsese trod the territory of James Ivory with his sumptuous and faithful adaptation of Edith Wharton's novel of 1870s New York, *The Age of Innocence*. Woody Allen played delightedly with thriller conventions in *Manhattan Murder Mystery*.

A Bronx Tale is apparently Robert De Niro's debut as director; though rumour has it that he has already tried his hand with two or three essay films that have never been shown. Despite some obvious schematism, this is a wholly likable film, a kind of nice guy's *GoodFellas*. The story is the same — a teenager growing up in the Bronx, his loyalties divided between love of his honest, hard-working father (De Niro, as a bus driver) and hero-worship for the

local godfather. With fine characterisation and minimal violence, *A Bronx Tale* has a reality which makes more understandable the hold which such community bosses maintained over poor New York Italian communities. The film grew out of a theatrical monologue by Chazz Palminteri, a striking actor who also wrote the script and plays the gang leader.

Another debut film, Andrew Davis's *The Fugitive*, based on a television series of 30 years ago, has already soared to the top of the US box office. The most surprising and likable film of this American invasion, however, was *Dave*, a sweet comic fable that contains only one dirty word, and that dramatically necessary. A Capraesque fantasy about a simple fellow who accidentally takes the place of the President, the film marks a change of direction for the director of *Ghostbusters* and *Meatballs*, Ivan Reitman.

This impressive group was shown out of competition; otherwise no other country would have had a chance. The jury diplomatically divided the Golden Lion between America and Europe: though Robert Altman's *Short Cuts* dwarfs its co-winner, Krzysztof Kieslowski's *The Four Colours*, *Blue*.

*Short Cuts* is no less than a great apocalyptic fable of American society at the close of the century. Paradoxically it is adapted from a series of short, minimalist stories by Raymond Carver (1939-1988). Gore Vidal, in Venice, commented shrewdly: "Altman has taken a bunch of short stories and turned them into the great American novel."

In its three hours' length the film intricately and faultlessly interweaves nine Carver stories and a narrative poem, and 22 disparate characters whose paths occasionally cross according to the whims of a random chance that Altman perceives ruling our lives. Carver's characters are moved from the Pacific northwest to the impersonal wilderness of greater Los Angeles. They are unremarkable people whose lives are the ordinary chaos of hopes and disappointments, love and infidelity, the periodic convul-



Lily Tomlin and Tom Waits in Robert Altman's *Short Cuts*, which was joint winner of the Golden Lion at Venice. The entire team of actors also won a special award

sions of catastrophe and death. The film opens with helicopters spraying the community with Midec; and ends with an earthquake — not the big one yet, but a reminder of judgment day. *Short Cuts* also received a special prize for the entire team of actors.

Kieslowski's film is the first part of a Red, White and Blue trilogy, dealing with freedom, fraternity and equality. *Blue* is the freedom story, about the reaction of a young woman (played by Juliet Binoche, who won best actress prize for the role) after the sudden death of her husband, a celebrated composer. The film is full of intellectual games and mysteries; and marked by the sometimes showy brilliance of execution that has continued to develop since Kieslowski's *Dekalog* and *The Double Life of Véronique*.

The festival's enfant terrible was the Dutch-Australian director Rolf

de Heer, whose mischievous *Bad Boy Bobby* took the special prize of the jury. The film displays the admirable Australian capacity for disregarding all accepted conventions of taste.

Bobby, the mentally retarded hero, has spent his first 35 years in total confinement, imprisoned by his crazy mother who uses him as a sex machine. Having killed her and his returning long-lost father, Bobby escapes to discover the world. He is at once Kaspar Hauser and E.T., aping the action and language of the people he encounters, with bizarre results. In their own way, Bobby's experiences (including collisions with the Salvation Army, a rock group and a hospital for the severely handicapped) reveal a panorama of civilisation not unlike Altman's. Not the least oddity of

this strange film, offering something to offend everyone, is De Heer's use of 31 different camera-men to achieve a peculiar but finally coherent visual variety.

The Venice Silver Lion went to a film from Tajikistan, Bakhtiyar Khudonazarov's *Kosh* (a Kosh, refreshingly unlike any other picture in a festival whose also-rans tended tediously to be about wicked mothers or serial killers). The film relates an off-beat love affair in a depressed one-time Soviet republic.

The film most unjustly overlooked was the Argentinian Maria Luisa Bemberg's *We Don't Talk About It*. Set in a small village, this is the tragicomedy of a mother who will not admit that her daughter is not only charming, intelligent and gifted, but also ceased to grow at 90cm. The film at least deserved a prize for one of Marcello Mastroianni's finest recent performances,

as a seedy playboy who falls in love with the small lady.

Bent on commemorations, the festival devised a fascinating retrospective, recreating the festival that might have been in 1943 if Venice had been some marvellous neutral zone in the toughest period of the war (naturally there was no actual festival that year). Some of the great titles of the year were Dreyer's *Day of Wrath* (which was taken as overall title for the retrospective), Minnelli's *Cabin in the Sky* and *Obsession*, Visconti's adaptation of *The Postman Always Rings Twice*, which launched the postwar Italian neo-realist cinema.

Venice 1993 may or may not be remembered as the occasion of the first International Authors Symposium, whose organisation ran away with a large part of the annual budget. A total of 250 film personalities were flown to Venice

to sit in session. A few of them — Jack Lang, Spielberg — had an opportunity to speak; the rest listened. At the end of two days they announced the foundation of a World Union of Authors; and a grand if rather vague intention of protecting the rights of authors and of national audio-visual cultures.

An odd little ceremony ended it all. Spielberg revealed that he had once bought at auction the Venice Golden Lion which the festival's director, Gillo Pontecorvo, had won in 1962 for his film *The Battle of Algiers*; and now intended to give it back. Pontecorvo responded with a special Golden Lion for Spielberg's life achievement. There seemed some metaphor in this barter between the European creator of the most intelligent of all political thrillers and the man who has made a world industry out of selling us back our infancy.

### ROCK

## No mistaking an original master

ALTHOUGH well past his prime, and responsible for a succession of poor-to-middling albums in recent years, Paul McCartney's status as a first-rank touring attraction remains secure. In appointing himself keeper of the Beatles' flame on his last world tour of 1989-90, McCartney claimed (his rightful) access to one of the central repertoires of rock. And after all, if imposters such as the Bootleg Beatles can earn a living with old Beatles songs, it follows that people will turn out in their droves to see the man who wrote and sang so many of those great tunes in the first place.

There were distractions to wade through beforehand. On the way in, fans were assailed by Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth campaigners, waving collection buckets, distributing pamphlets and urging a boycott of goods produced in Norway. Then the show began with a ten-minute film, providing a potted history of the Beatles and McCartney's subsequent activities, intercut towards the end with disturbing images of barbaric cruelty on sad-looking animals.

Almost as sad were the songs from McCartney's most recent album, *Off The Ground*, which were dotted throughout the performance. This is the dreary collection he is ostensibly touring to promote, although the flyers on the seats were all advertising the Beatles compilation album *1962-1966 and 1967-1970* (the so-called Red and Blue albums) which are released for the first time on CD on September 20.

There was polite applause for "Looking For Changes", "Peace In The Neighbour-

**Paul McCartney Earls Court**

hood" and "Off The Ground", but the reaction paled in comparison to the genuine thrill of excitement which coursed round the 18,000-capacity arena at the start of each Beatles number.

Beginning with "Drive My Car", "All My Loving" and "Can't Buy Me Love", interspersed with "Let It Be" and "Let Me Roll It" from the Wings era, McCartney wisely resisted the temptation to revise or tart up these numbers in any way. Recognising that such memories are sacrosanct, he and his superb five-piece band diligently produced perfect facsimiles of the originals, duplicating the exact harmony vocals (mostly supplied by guitarist Hamish Stuart) and even reproducing every note and nuance of George Harrison's solos (expertly done by Robbie McIntosh).

There was an "unplugged" section which threw up "We Can Work It Out" and the first song McCartney ever wrote, a piece of harmony-pop fluff called "Lost My Little Girl". Then a smoochy sequence of "Here There And Everywhere", "Yesterday" and "My Love" which paved the way for the home straight: an orgy of nostalgia, beginning with "Lady Madonna" and "Magical Mystery Tour" and surging through to an emotional finale of "Band On The Run", "I Saw Her Standing There" and "Hey Jude".

Even the sound mix was noticeably old-fashioned, with the vocals layered clearly on top, guitars and keyboards



Paul McCartney, leading a superb band at Earls Court

slotted in somewhere behind, and bass and drums relatively faint in the distance, the sort of Sixties pop band sound which Cliff Richard still uses, but few others. The one moment of noisy drama — when a wall of pyrotechnics exploded in front of the stage during "Live And Let Die" — came as a terrific shock in the middle of such a genteel performance, and some of the more aged among the audience practically leapt out of their skins.

Many of the songs, although landmark recordings, were never performed in concert, by the Beatles, and keyboard player Paul Wickens played a crucial role in providing synthesized recreations of

everything from the trumpet voluntary in "Penny Lane" to the full brass ensemble part in "Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band", a storming rendition and virtually the only number which prompted the audience to rise to its feet. "Turn veggie" admonished a banner draped from Linda McCartney's keyboard. "Macca you're a crackert" was the more lighthearted message beamed back from a banner in the crowd. For all the proselytising on the margins, at its heart this was a pleasant, if undemanding entertainment by one of rock's foremost showbusiness veterans.

DAVID SINCLAIR

PROMS: The Last Night and (below) penultimate night of the 1993 season

## Annual rites and responsibilities

WHenever I go to the Last Night of the Proms I always try to bring along a foreigner. It helps to maintain some sense of perspective. This time I imposed the occasion on a visitor from Japan. He thought the whole thing rather odd. Three times, as the Albert Hall stood to sing, he asked whether the piece concerned was our national anthem. Of course, I said, we have lots of national anthems. One would like to think that they were just good, clean fun, although many of those present would probably disagree with that notion.

In any case there were many things to enjoy in this entirely British programme, given by the BBC Symphony Orches-

tra under the amiable, crisp conducting of Barry Wordsworth. The morsels that most tempted me were sharply witty and more. Malcolm Arnold's Second Clarinet Concerto, with Michael Collins as the genial soloist, is no mean piece, for a start. Its finale goes with a wickedly discordant swing (the piece was written for Benny Goodman in 1974), but its opening Allegro vivace has a sharp, dry taste, and its slow movement is seriously, even darkly lyrical.

Then there were excerpts from the eccentric Lord Berners' ballet *The Triumph of Neptune* (1926), offbeat music, complete with whoops in the number called "Scottische". This, like much of Berners'

work, is partly an act of rebellion — as the self-parody of the suave "Sunday Morning" amply demonstrates — but also one of genuine imagination. And then came Constant Lambert's *Rio Grande* (1927), swinging along jazzily but also here with an undercurrent of sultry sexiness, thanks to the tantalising singing of the mezzo-soprano, Della Jones, the rhythmic swagger of the BBC Singers and BBC Symphony Chorus and Kathryn Stott's brilliantly effervescent performance at the piano. Jones and John Tomlinson, who later gave three of Vaughan Williams's *Songs of Travel* with a genial expansiveness, joined forces in "Rule, Britannia!". The Prom-

ners got up to their usual high jinks in Henry Wood's arrangement of "Jack's the Lad", the famous Hornpipe, for which Collins reappeared in the statutory encore; and of course they hummed along to "Home, Sweet Home".

But the important thing was the speech. Wordsworth said all the right things, bidding a touching adieu to Colin Bradbury, the BBC SO's retiring principal clarinet, but also pleading the cause of the nation's culture and making sure that the BBC moguls were told before the watching millions about the importance of preserving the heritage of which they are custodians.

STEPHEN PETTITT

## England's glories

sourceful sense of light and shade, was a remarkable feat. And hearing the choir minus the impressionistic shimmer of the chapel's reverberation only increased one's admiration for conductor Stephen Cleobury's achievement in maintaining such standards. The only slight weakness was an imbalance in favour of the lower voices.

Whether singing five Latin motets one after another was the best way of celebrating Byrd's genius is a moot point. However, this Prom cogently

went on to pursue the thread of English music into the Baroque period.

First came a startlingly dark and mysterious performance of a Handel Concerto Grosso (Op 6 No 6, in G minor) for London Baroque, directed from the cello by Charles Medlam. The work has a sinister potential, with its eerie opening, weirdly chromatic fugue and sombre Musette, but I doubt whether Handel would have expected it to have sounded quite this sepulchral. However, the rapport between

the players was exceptional, and they supplied a memorably responsive accompaniment to Lynne Dawson's serene soprano in Handel's motet "Silete venti".

Finally, the players joined the King's choristers for Purcell's ebullient ode "Come Ye Sons of Art", sung in Bruce Wood's new edition, which restores many of the composer's original intentions. Cleobury's speeds verged on the stately, but counter-tenors Derek Lee Ragin and Timothy Wilson duetted through "Sound the Trumpet" with many a deft embellishment.

RICHARD MORRISON

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815-820 Airframe	2	415	+1	7.2	3.2	16.0
820-825 Airframe	2	415	+1	7.2	3.2	16.0
825-830 Airframe	2	415	+1	7.2	3.2	16.0
830-835 Airframe	2	415	+1	7.2	3.2	16.0
835-840 Airframe	2	415	+1	7.2	3.2	16.0
840-845 Airframe	2	415	+1	7.2	3.2	16.0
845-850 Airframe	2	415	+1	7.2	3.2	16.0
850-855 Airframe	2	415	+1	7.2	3.2	16.0
855-860 Airframe	2	415	+1	7.2	3.2	16.0
860-865 Airframe	2	415	+1	7.2	3.2	16.0
865-870 Airframe	2	415	+1	7.2	3.2	16.0
870-875 Airframe	2	415	+1	7.2	3.2	16.0
875-880 Airframe	2	415	+1	7.2	3.2	16.0
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# Britain shows the way a year on from White Wednesday

Janet Bush says that only economic growth will end the pressure on the non-German currencies still in the exchange-rate mechanism

John Major looked shell-shocked on his return from holiday, mired within minutes in trench warfare with the "bastards" in his own Cabinet over whether to cut spending or raise taxes in the Budget. It is a row that owes more to the political ambitions of various faction leaders in the Conservative party than real economic problems.

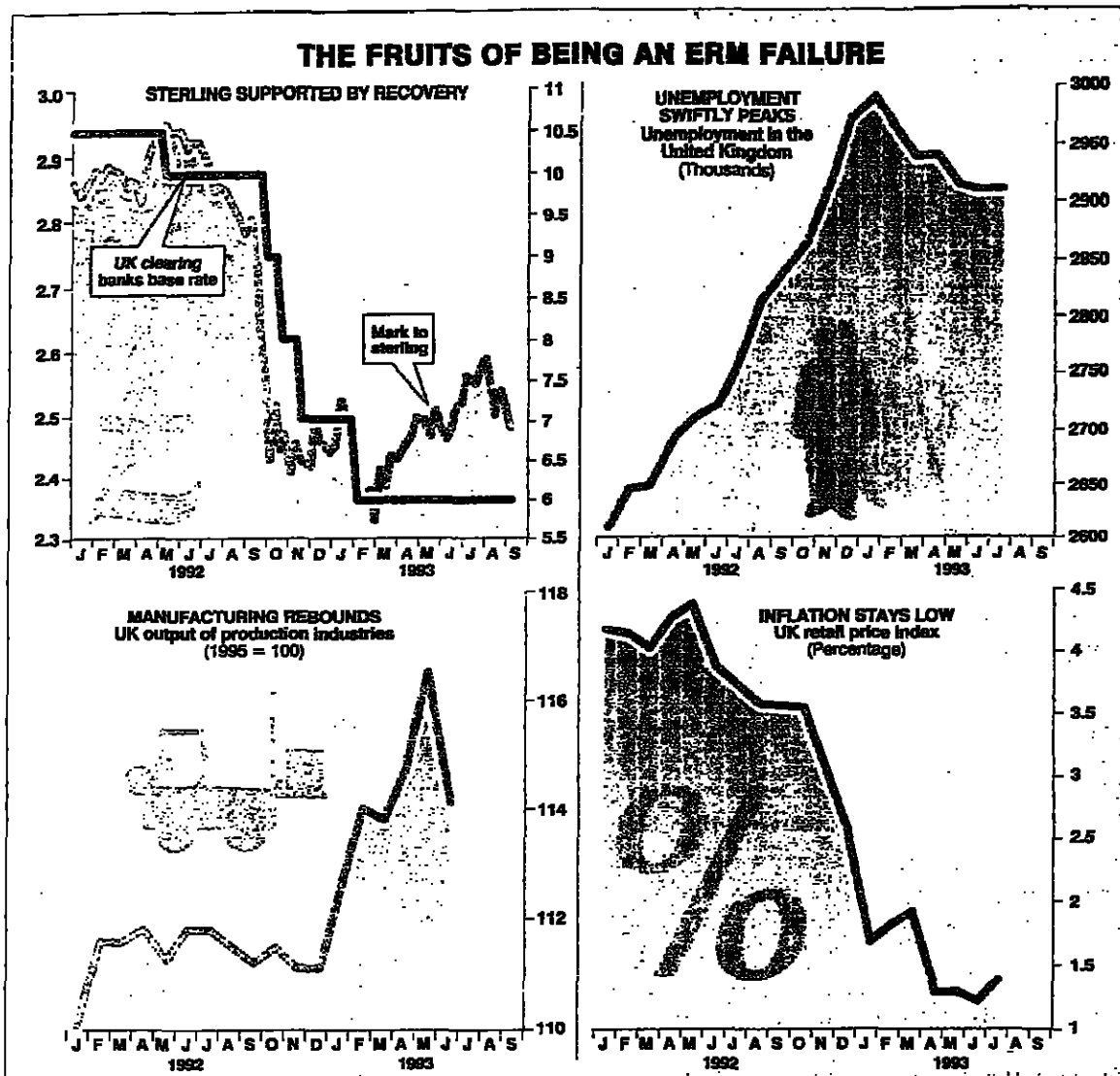
In contrast, the coolly authoritative figure of Edouard Balladur, the French prime minister, continues to ride high in the opinion polls, his reputation apparently unscathed by the ignominy of conceding to an effective free float of the franc in the exchange-rate mechanism, deep recession in France and the apparent political decision to close off the escape route of devaluation and lower interest rates.

If Mr Major managed to be a luckier or less accident-prone politician, he should be the economic top dog in Europe. A year on from Black, or as some call it, White Wednesday — the anniversary is on Thursday — the British economy provides a seductive example to policy-makers around Europe. As the current fracas in Parliament shows, Britain is agonising about its public sector deficit. But look at Belgium. National debt stands at 130 per cent of gross domestic product, the highest in Europe. Yet, after the Bundesbank's welcome cut in official rates last week, Belgium shaved only 4 point off its central rate, which is still 10.25 per cent. For a country such as Belgium — as they were for Britain — high interest rates are surely suicidal.

The reaction of the Belgian franc to last week's rate cut was as instructive as the behaviour of sterling since it was forced out of the ERM. After an initial bout of weakness on Thursday, the Belgian franc actually strengthened. As sterling's strong bounce back from its lows illustrates so categorically, interest rates are no longer the main arbiter of currency values.

If the British route out of recession is anything to go by, the only thing that is going to end pressure on those non-German currencies still in the ERM is economic growth. Paul Tempterton, of The Independent Economic Research Company and editor of *The European Currency Crisis — One Year On*, to be published tomorrow, said: "Trying to stick with Germany and not using the new flexibility really is ludicrous. The only way these currencies are going to get stronger is through registering economic growth."

With the caveat that continental interest rate changes than Britain with its penchant for home ownership and variable rate mortgages, it is still debatable whether Europe can achieve growth — certainly not soon — without lower rates. There are some who point to the revival in consumer spending that started some months before sterling was ejected from the ERM as



evidence that the British economy would have started recovering even within the system. But most economists believe that staying in would have had dire economic consequences.

The rest of Europe continues to cling on to the old paradigm despite rising debt levels and unemployment — a policy which, because these countries account for about two thirds of British exports, means that Britain is still, in an important sense, under the shadow of the ERM. Governments around Europe continue to insist (in public) that they will return to narrow bands and that the timetable towards monetary union is on track. They talk of fear about a break out of ill-discipline, competitive devaluations and, above all, inflation. But, here too, Britain provides a benign example.

One has to acknowledge that the labour reforms of the 1980s led to employers behaving quite differently during this recession, achieving productivity growth, even as the economy was contracting, by aggressive job shedding. This has accounted for unit labour costs coming under extreme pressure and balanced the inflationary effect of sterling's devaluation. Inflation in the labour market in Europe may not enjoy the same inflationary bonus. Nevertheless, the fact that inflation has gone on falling in Britain's notoriously inflationary economy should convince European leaders that growth, not price pressures, is their main problem. Here, too, Britain's experience provides food for thought. For

despite a rapid reduction in interest rates and a large devaluation in sterling, the recovery cannot be described as any more than undramatic. The same is true of the United States, which is still seeing a recovery that is below par in comparison with past ones. Granted, the Anglo-Saxon economies have in common a particularly hard to shift hangover of high personal and corporate debt. But there are clearly self-reinforcing deflationary forces in the industrialised economies that affect everybody.

There is something approaching a broad consensus in Britain that even lower interest rates will be needed to fuel a recovery strong enough to make a significant dent in unemployment and a large minority who believe that 1 per cent of base rates is probably not going to be enough.

Mr Warburton, of Robert Fleming, points out the recent falls in the government's unemployment totals are misleading. An analysis of average earnings and hours worked, he believes, gives a much better guide to the state of the labour market and it is still "by no means healthy". He fears that tax increases in the pipeline could squeeze consumers dramatically and leave a hole in the recovery and that the stock market, driven to hysterical high market ratings by pre-emptive euphoria about the upturn, is at risk of crashing and creating some kind of financial crisis. Taking all these fragilities into

account, he argues for a period of zero real interest rates around Europe and in Britain. "The risks of oversimulating the economy and repeating past mistakes is minimal and a more alert and aware government would have cut to 4 per cent earlier this year," he said.

Last week's rate cuts by the Bundesbank leave it on the same slow schedule it has adhered to all year and which is too gradual to provide the relief European economies need. Gerald Holtham, chief economist at Lehman Brothers, believes that there is no genuine economic impediment to coordinated interest rate cuts agreed between the non-German members of the EC. If, as in the case of sterling, the point in the economic cycle has been reached where currencies rise on lower interest rates because the prospects of escape from recession are so improved, there seems to be absolutely no economic penalty to this approach.

Europe's leaders will probably reject such a plan of action, fearing inflation and missing their deadline of January 1, 1994, to go back into narrow bands and qualify for the monetary union process. But the truth is that German rates will not have fallen enough by the start of next year to achieve the beginnings of a European recovery that would be acceptable in the financial markets. Britain's recovery, albeit an uninspiring one, is still an isolated example of economic hope in Europe. Surely, the temptation to isolate from German problems and policy will become overwhelming.

## Going west again

AFTER a quiet spell at the start of the year, British companies — provided they are not nursing battered balance sheets — are beginning to look at acquisitions again. Last week alone, Cadbury and Unilever spent more than £500 million on acquisitions, and more large deals are likely as the interim results season continues.

The renewed round of corporate expansion was to be expected. Prices may not be low, with exit multiples in the high teens or early twenties, but acquisitions can be financed cheaply and easily. The cost of equity has fallen and there is steady demand for rights issues. Interest rates are low enough to ensure that even the highest priced debt-funded deals do not dilute companies' earnings too much.

The striking feature of most of this year's large deals is that they have been in America. Not only Cadbury and Unilever, but RTZ's acquisition of Nercio and Hanson's of Quantum Chemical show that companies still want

to go west, despite the promise of the single European market.

Consider the number of British companies that have come to grief across the Atlantic. From the damage that Midland suffered from its acquisition of Crocker National, which ultimately cost it its independence, to Dixons, which is still trying to make a silk purse out of a sow's ear, dozens of big names have come to regret their American entanglements.

Aside from linguistic convenience, the main attraction of American expansion is the ease of access to a vast, homogenous consumer market. European markets are still fragmented, and potential acquisitions smaller and normally unquoted.

Most of the companies acquiring in America this year already have long experience in managing overseas subsidiaries. But if this new trail westwards becomes another stampede, it cannot be long before it claims a few more unwary victims.

## Equities

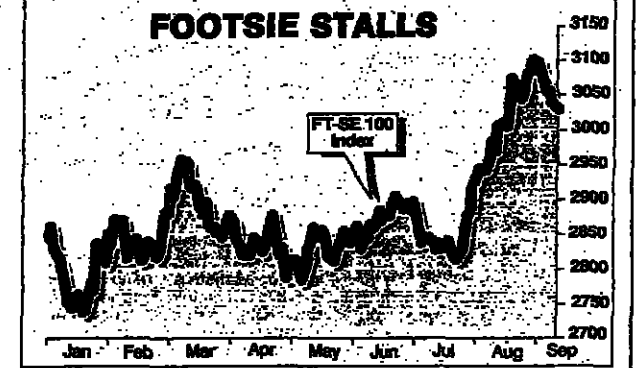
REPEATED glib statements from company chairmen during the current reporting season and a renewed tide of rights issues have taken the shine off share prices. The FT-SE 100 index has risen more than 2 per cent since it reached a high of 3,101 last month.

The turnaround looks more than just a temporary setback. The two forces that were driving the market last month were the shortage of equity for institutions to invest their strong cash flows in, and the belief that economic recovery was accelerating faster than expected, which argued for stronger earnings and dividend growth. Both have now evaporated. Companies such as Williams and BTR are making it clear that they see little improvement in their business, while recent rights issues from Cadbury and Rolls-Royce have eased any stock shortage.

The August euphoria failed to take account of the rising overseas share in the earnings of Britain's largest companies. As much as 40 per cent of FT-SE 100 companies' earnings is generated abroad and the consensus forecast of

1993 world growth has almost halved since January, to 1.2 per cent.

If the cautious statements and poor figures keep coming, the market will continue to be knocked back. Only one broker, Warburg, still forecasts that the FT-SE 100 will be under 3,000 by the year end, but now that does not look so outlandish.



## Indices

SMITHKLINE Beecham's share price had been damaged before the US Food and Drug Administration's decision on Friday not to allow it to sell a non-prescription version of Tagamet.

The earlier fall was not caused by any shift in the group's commercial or financial fortunes, but by the threat of the FT-SE Actuaries UK Indices Committee to sling SB's units out of the FT-SE 100 index. Apparently, SB does not correspond to the committee's definition of a British company, as it pays a non-franked dividend.

The committee's reliance on dividend status to determine nationality is questionable, and may be completely delinked if the government proceeds with a reform of advance corporation tax.

The committee may consider some change in its definitions when it meets next month. The FT-SE 100 index is hardly representative of British business, since

such a high proportion of corporate earnings now comes from overseas. Companies such as BTR and RTZ are British only because of their history and the location of their head offices.

Nor is the FT-SE 100 an unadulterated indication of the performance of the London market. Stocks such as Hanson and Glaxo are traded and moved daily on Wall Street, while the price of HSBC shares is tied more to Hong Kong markets.

Given that the FT-SE 100 happily accommodates so many non-British interests, it is unfair to discriminate against SB because of its dividend arrangements. A definition, based perhaps on the location of a company's registered office, would serve investors' interests better.

## Stockbroking

BANQUE Indosuez's decision to close most of the business of Carr, Kilcat & Aitken shows that not all the stockbroking industry is enjoying

days of milk and honey. It was probably the bull market that forced Indosuez's decision to reduce its London securities business to a small specialist operation. If Carr was unable to make an adequate return in these conditions, it never would.

Carr's disappearance suggests there is further consolidation to come in the broking industry, despite all the casualties of the past five years. The top six securities houses control as much as three-quarters of the equity market and James Capel and Cazenove are strong agency brokers, leaving the remaining firms struggling at the margin. Carr may have held only 2 per cent of the institutional broking market. Low-cost niche firms such as Winterflood can prosper; some groups may be prepared to keep loss-making securities arms to support profitable corporate business. But the outlook for other small firms is bleak, particularly if share prices and trading volumes fall.

## BUSINESS LETTERS

### Heroes and villains of final salary pension schemes

From the President of the Society of Pension Consultants  
Sir Graham Searjeant's article "Wheels start to fall off the pension bandwagon" (September 8) gives a distorted picture of the history, current worth, and future of final salary occupational pension schemes, with his casting of consultants as villains and Nigel Lawson as hero. The main impetus to the spread of

FS schemes was not, as he implies, paternalism of employers rewarding long-serving employees, but that the forerunners to these schemes, money purchase schemes giving a pot of cash built up from fixed contributions, but no pre-determined benefits, were too often leaving members with inadequate pensions once inflation began to rise above modest levels. Long serving workforces might be

in the past, but the jury is still out on inflation, so we should not be as eager to dismantle final salary schemes as Mr Searjeant suggests. (though legislation has made them more complex to run particularly since they now have safeguards on transfer and increase of leavers' benefits.)

He also gives a less than complete account of the 1970s and 1980s and of the part played then by consultants and Mr Lawson. For much of the 1970s, as a result of falling investment markets, occupational pension funds faced deficit not surplus. Employers faced with calls for extra contributions to enable the scheme to deliver benefit promises would have laughed in the face of a consultant suggesting they were sitting on a "huge and neglected asset".

As to Nigel Lawson, there is no doubt one of the factors which focused most attention on surpluses, thus calling into question the "sacrosanct" nature of pension funds, was his 1986 Finance Act. This included provisions which turned what employers had hitherto regarded as prudent, and possibly transitory, surpluses into potentially excess funding, giving rise to a tax charge if not disposed of.

We are surprised to see Professor Goode's enquiry written off as an image-polishing exercise. We doubt if anybody who, as this society has, sought to unravel the implications of the SI interlocking questions in his consultation document and sat at the receiving end of one of his public sessions would agree. Yours faithfully, ROGER WESTWOOD, President, The Society of Pension Consultants, Ludgate House, Ludgate Circus, EC4.

### Savings as an income source

From J. Christopher Wathen  
Sir, I need with interest Mr Ogilvy's letter (Business Letters, September 10).

It is a fact of life that low inflation brings lower rates of interest, and while borrowers expect that rates be reduced accordingly, savers understandably take a different view.

I am sure that your readers will agree that low interest rates are a necessary condition for faster economic growth. Unfortunately, this does not necessarily help those who depend on their savings as their only source of income.

Mr Ogilvy's account with us is neither a loan nor a savings account but a current account, which pays monthly interest after the deduction of tax.

The provision of money transmission and other current account services provides benefits to the customer, the cost of which is reflected in the lower interest rate paid on current accounts compared with that paid on savings.

Midland provides a range of savings accounts and investment services for customers who have fund in excess of their immediate requirements. We also encourage our customers to manage their finances actively by offering a variety of ways to transfer moneys between accounts. One such service is an automatic sweep facility, which transfers surplus funds from a current account to a higher interest savings account. Our local manager will contact Mr Ogilvy to discuss this further. Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER WATHEN (Managing Director), Branch Banking, Midland Bank, Poultry, EC2.

### Barclays response

From the Chairman of Barclays Bank  
Sir, Mr Gimson is wrong to suggest (Business Letters, August 26) that Barclays is seeking to reduce its lending to manufacturing industry and to small business in particular. My predecessor, Sir John Quinton, was reported as saying: "We are not in business as a bank to provide equity capital for any business." This is not the same as saying that Barclays will not support manufacturing industry.

Providing services to small businesses is a core part of our activity and we are currently

lending around £12.5 billion to that sector — a figure which has remained broadly constant throughout the recession. We are always seeking to support well managed and viable small businesses, especially those with the ambition and potential to grow as we emerge from recession.

We recognise the importance of small businesses both to Barclays and to the economy as a whole and are keen to maintain a leading market position. Yours faithfully, ANDREW BUXTON, Chairman, Barclays Bank, 4 Royal Mint Court, EC3.

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Two match tickets for The Times World Chess Championship (7th Sept - 11th Oct) with a splendid lunch beforehand at Simpson's - in the Strand.

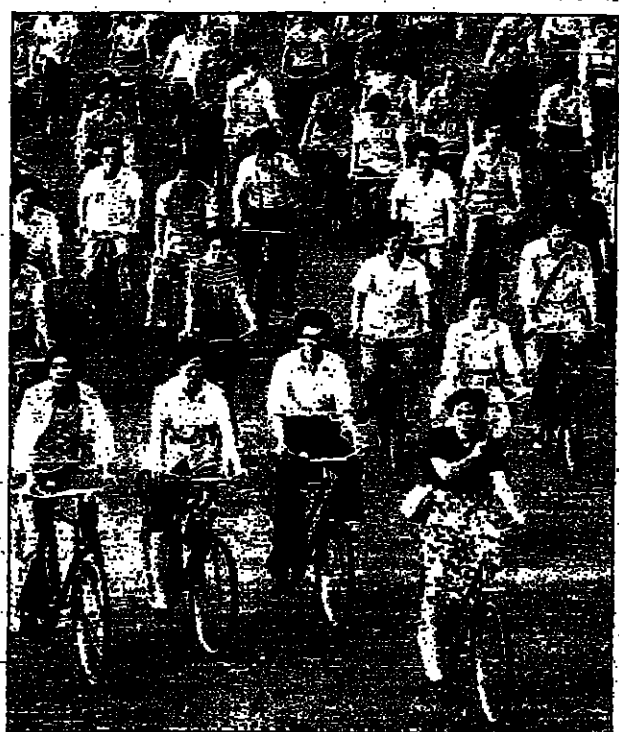
## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Playing a strong suit

IAN WHITE, the doyen of the City's pharmaceutical analysts, and Barbara Araymanow, the other half of his team and his wife, are, I hear, uprooting themselves from Kleinworts after long service to move to Robert Fleming. The Whites, whose remuneration and conditions of employment are said to have verged on the fabulous, are expected to start at the new firm in January. The departure of the distinctly colourful duo from Kleinworts is understood to have been pretty amicable, but the presence of Kevin Scotcher, Kleinworts' new head of pharmaceuticals, has probably helped ring the changes, as Kleinworts' ratings slip probably did too. Flemings, intending to build on its role as global co-ordinator for last year's Wellcome share sale, is clearly out to ensure that it holds a strong suit in a dynamic sector.

### On their bikes

HAVING last week moved to block Chinese garlic imports that were upsetting European growers, Brussels has now slapped a punitive 30 per cent anti-dumping duty on Chinese push bikes. Europe's bicycle manufacturers prompted the European Commission into the 17 per cent increase in the import tariffs, which should effectively shut out the Chinese, as concern grew that the world's leading producer was about to wipe out their industry. Given the alarming unemployment in Europe, Lord Tebbit, for one, must reckon



Chinese bikes face being pushed out of European market

that cutting off the cheap bike is likely to do more harm than good in the labour market.

### Spies in the sky

Scandinavian Airlines System, desperately close to forging its Alcazar alliance with the national carriers of Switzerland, Austria and The Netherlands, still found time at the weekend to enter into a joint venture to create Scandinavia's largest charter airline, SAS and ScaStar, its own charter subsidiary, sound alert and honest enough. The syllables of the names of their new partners, Spies of Den-

mark and Comair, its subsidiary, certainly have a rather unfortunate ring to the English ear.

### Struggling on

PETER Stormonth-Darling, former head of Mercury Asset Management, was, he tells me, rather disturbed when he learnt, scanning *The Times City Diary* on the Underground between Mansion House and Monument on Friday, that the only Stormonth-Darling left in the City was a mining analyst. Although retired, Mercury Asset Management's ex-chairman would

like it to be known that he still struggles into his City office at Mercury Asset Management every weekday in weather fair and foul. Reading about his own disappearance reminded him of the story about an obituary editor who reported the death of the wrong peer. Instead of Lord Bessborough, the obituary dealt with Lord Desborough. The latter, on reading of his death, phoned the editor responsible, only to be asked exactly where he was calling from.

### Going downhill

THE mayors of the leading French ski stations have collectively addressed a letter to all the leading European travel agents asking them to vet their skiers more carefully. Chief concerns are excessive drinking, drug-taking and vandalism, it seems. British travel agents that make block bookings for hotels and chalets are blamed for delivering the most troublesome customers. André Degouey, the mayor of Val d'Isère, says: "Failure to sell all the space available at normal brochure prices has caused British, and to a lesser extent, other European travel agents to offer bargain prices. This, in turn, is attracting a lower class of clientele that doesn't fit into the ski station's image." There's always the Cairngorms.

WHAT is it with private medical insurance? The managing director of BUPA, the largest insurer, is Arthur Large. The general manager of Private Patients Plan, its main rival, is Brian Little.


COLIN NARBROUGH



significantly not significant

- 6.30 **Heathcliff**. Animated adventures of a cat (29/19435)  
6.45 **Wowsater**. Cartoon capers of a dog and his chums (4385226)
- 7.00 **The Big Breakfast** presented by Chris Evans and  
Ulrika Jonsson (30077)
- 7.15 **Top Gear**. A new series of a new series of the  
American game show hosted by Bill Cosby (5)  
(34400)
- 9.30 **Film: Seagullbust** (1934, b/w). The early John  
Ford's western season continues with this B-movie  
about a man, wrongly jailed for murder, who  
escapes from prison and joins a gang in order to  
track down the real culprit. Directed by Armand  
Schaefer (20892)
- 10.30 **From The Avonires**. Canadian family drama series  
(1) (80968)
- 11.30 **Tony Jacklin's Pro-Celebrity Golf Challenge**.  
Hale Irwin and Sam Torrance are joined by Ronnie  
Corbett and Pat Jennings (1) (25394)
- 12.00 **The Street**. Early learning series. The guest is  
the singer Smokey Robinson (1) (94684) 1.30  
**Bobobobs**. Outer space animated adventures (1)  
(443239)
- 2.00 **Film: Bell Bottom** (1934, b/w). Second  
World War aerial starring George Formby as a  
waiter who pretends he is a sailor and unearths a  
nest of spies. Directed by Marcel Varnel (58077)
- 3.45 **A Hard Day At The Office**. Al Sere's animated  
series on 8 to 5 office life (504116)
- 3.55 **Chutney**. Chutney. Comedy. Rebecca Pow and  
Matthew Bliggs meet gardeners from Mallock,  
Derbyshire (1). (Teletext) (624290)
- 4.30 **Countdown**. Richard Whiteley introduces another  
round of the words and numbers game. (Teletext)  
(1) (816)
- 5.00 **The Highlights Horse Trials**. John Francombe  
introduces highlights of one of the leading  
equestrian events (63348)
- 6.00 **Batman**. The caped crusader and his sidekick  
Robin do battle with the Joker (333)
- 6.30 **Topper**. Comedy. The comedy series  
about growing up in the late 1960s. Starring Fred  
Savage (1). (Teletext) (503)
- 7.00 **Channel 4 News** (Teletext) and weather (5)  
(636936)
- 7.50 **Channel 4**. Solicitor Peter Hays advocates mediation  
before litigation (369416)

**8.00 Brookside.** Soap set in a suburban Merseyside close. (Teletext) (s) (5987)



A stretcher for an African rhino (9.00pm)

**9.00 Vets in the Wild.** (Telex) See Choice (2042)

**10.00 I'll Fly Away.** American drama series set in the Deep South, starring Sam Waterston. (Telex) (s) (5329)

**11.00 The American Football Big Match.** Extended highlights from one of the weekend's big NFL games, introduced by Gary Imlach and Bob Golic (805435)

**12.15am Midnight Underground.** The series of classic experimental films continues on the theme of music and includes three pieces by Kenneth Anger — *Eaux D'Artifice*, *All My Life* and *Scorpions Rising*. Bruce Connor's *Mongoloid* and Chris Garratt's

Versailles 2 (5061153). Ends at 1.30

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[illegible]

With Rex Hamson (1854145) 2.00 Film The  
Malpas Mystery (1960). A crook's lover

**Kelly's Heroes (1970).** S of a gold heist. With Tall  
**10-30-12-00 Midnight!**

10. *Rocky Horror* (1972/4) poses as the daughter of a rich former convict. With Maureen Swanson (1972/11)  
 3.00 Bonanza (581/590) 4.00 The "New"  
 Hollywood (584/10) 4.30 I Love a  
 Boy (192/374) 5.30 The Love Where Are  
 You (583/874) 6.00 The David Niven Show  
 (983/807) 6.30 The Voice (855/139) 7.00 The  
 Dick Powell Theatre (376/760) 8.00 Film  
 Kinky: Heroes (1970). Second world war tale  
 of a gold heist. With Telly Savalas (1983/13)  
 10.30-12.00 Midnight Film. Shake, Rattle  
 and Rock (1956, b/w). Musical featuring Fats  
 Domino (137/498).

Living Extra (1153329) 1

**UK LIVING**

7.00am Hot Topics and Living Extra (8913042) 8.00 Living Daylights (1061394) 8.30 Jayne & Friends (1060665) 9.00 Divorce Court (1157145) 9.30 Hot Topics (7614394) 10.00 Health UK (4119705) 10.30 Living Extra (1153329) 11.00 On the House

(6256145) 8.00 The You  
(6169065) 9.00 Firm Ne  
light-hearted look at cl

[illegible]

**FAMILY CHANNEL**

Uddie Time (94868) 5.00  
 And To You (4706) 5.00 Ch  
 with TV only 673700 5

4077) 7.30 Neighbours	5.00pm Danger Bay (8145)	5.30 Wonder Years (1771)	6.00 Big Brother Jake (9684)
Sons and Daughters			
Enders (1368787) 9.00	6.30 Catchphrase (9936)	7.00 Trivial Pursuit (5481)	7.30 All Cried Up (1348) 8.00 Remington Steele (18838)
9.30 The Fallens			
South of Nowhere (125944)	10.00 Wh-RP in Cincinnati (56348)		
12.00			
(1382503) 12.30	10.30 The Mary Tyler Moore Show (71868)		
5678 1.00 FunFest	11.00 The Bob Newhart Show (51771)	11.30	

Newhart (69348) 12.00-1.00am Lou Grant  
(54068)

**CMT**

**MTV**

**6.00am Awake on the Wild Side (1570481)**  
9.00 Mynne (385232) 12.00 Greatest Hits (86400) 1.00pm VJ Simone (535503) 3.30 The Report (2435877) 3.45 At the Movies (2259252) 4.30 The East (1163874) 4.15 3 From 1 (1163874) 4.30 The Grid (2077) 5.00 Hit 1 (1163874) 5.30 The Grid (2077) 5.00 Hit 1 (1163874)

Order Live From Montreux Jazz Festival (60954) 8.00 Music Non-Stop (10394) 9.00



Boarding  
party at  
data base  
enterpriseBy MELVYN MARCUS  
CITY EDITOR

THE arrival of a boarding party, including businessman Stephen Morris, at International Communication & Data, the USM-quoted data base enterprise, remains the subject of speculation.

Last Thursday, PSB, a private enterprise of which Mr Morris is a director and a large shareholder, said it had acquired an 0.87 per cent stake in ICD and had obtained an option to acquire a further 13 per cent during the next six months. The move, a separate private company deemed to be acting in concert, also acquired 0.87 per cent.

As reported on Friday, John Porter, son of Dame Shirley Porter, is a close associate of Mr Morris and is understood to hold 5 per cent of PSB.

Mr Morris made headlines in 1989 when Orbital Communications, a cellular telephone rental company he founded, cancelled plans to float on the Third Market after "adverse press comment".

This included the fact that Mr Morris had been a salesman at LHW, the commodity and financial futures enterprise whose sales tactics, investment practices and scale of commission fees sparked controversy in the late eighties.

Mr Morris says that Mr Porter, a big investor in LBC, holds "more than 50 per cent" of equity in Newgate Communications - the former Orbital. Should PSB gain effective control of ICD, Mr Morris wants Colin Lloyd, a director of Thechemest and the former chief executive of KLP, the marketing services group, to join ICD's board.

Mr Lloyd insists that he has no direct link with PSB. There is, however, an indirect link. Jonathan Self, PSB's deputy chairman, sold his marketing agency to KLP in 1989, and subsequently ran KLP's direct marketing business.



Trevor Smallwood, chairman, steps out towards a stock market flotation. Badgerline is planning the float for funds in order to take advantage of future privatisations

Badgerline  
takes route  
to stock  
market

BADGERLINE Group, the local bus company, plans its stock market debut, following in the tracks of rival operators (Sarah Bagnall writes).

The flotation, set for November, is expected to raise up to £30 million to fund expansion plans, giving Badgerline a market capitalisation of about £100 million.

More than 90 per cent of the group's shares are held by directors, past and present employees and their families. Five directors hold 30 per cent, existing staff and their families hold 40 per cent and former staff 20 per cent.

Trevor Smallwood, the chairman, who owns 13 per cent of the equity, said: "I expect to retain the bulk of my stake after flotation. The other directors will also be keeping the vast majority of their shareholdings."

Mr Smallwood was managing director at Badgerline in 1986 when the company was bought by management and 70 of the group's 900 employees. The company's turnover grew from £10 million to £127 million by the end of 1992. Operating profits for the year to end-1992 were £9.5 million. The number of buses has grown from 400 to 2,300 and the number of staff has advanced to 6,200, of which 1,000 are now shareholders.

The company started by operating services in Avon, parts of Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire. Over the past seven years, it has acquired bus companies in places such as Bristol, North Essex and Hertfordshire, Staffordshire, West Midlands, Wales and Devon.

Mr Smallwood, the international supplier of value-added electro-optical and electro-magnetic products, is planning to float this autumn. The company is expected to have a market capitalisation of between £70 million and £80 million, was bought by management in 1990.

Lonrho to retain 45% stake in  
\$1bn London float of AshantiBy COLIN CAMPBELL  
MINING  
CORRESPONDENT

THE Ashanti gold mine in Ghana, which is managed and 45 per cent owned by Lonrho, is to return to the international stock markets early next year. The Ghanaian government is to put up for sale at least 20 per cent of its 55 per cent shareholding.

The London flotation, for which Swiss, German and British merchant banks and brokers are being courted, will value Ashanti, the largest gold mine outside of South Africa, at between \$700 million and \$1 billion. Lonrho will not exercise pre-emption rights on the

flotation, and is determined to retain a firm 45 per cent stake in Ashanti. On a market valuation of \$900 million, Lonrho's stake would be worth \$405 million.

Tiny Rowland, Lonrho's joint chief executive, originally paid £3 million in shares and cash for 100 per cent of Ashanti in 1967, after which 20 per cent was "given" to the Ghanaian government.

In subsequent years, Lonrho's stake fell. However, unlike other Lonrho assets that have been sold in order to lower group debt, Ashanti has always been seen as an investment that is not for sale. Ashanti's managing director, Sam Jonah, joined Lonrho's

main board in July, 1992. Mining analysts said the Ashanti flotation "will concentrate investors' minds" on Lonrho's other mining assets in Africa, which include 73 per cent of Western Platinum, South Africa - the lowest cost platinum mine in the world.

An eventual stock exchange flotation of Western Platinum is also a possibility sometime in 1994, when Lonrho may sell part of its equity stake.

Genor, the South African mining group that negotiated hard, without success, with Mr Rowland in 1992 to buy his stake in London because it was essentially interested in Lonrho's platinum and gold interests holds the balance of

Western Platinum and is known to be keen to want a higher stake.

The Ghanaian government, whose economy has been under effective International Monetary Fund supervision since 1983, proposed a float of Ashanti last year, but international banking uncertainty stalled the plan. Enabling legislation has, however, recently been enacted in Ghana as a precursor to Ashanti's 1994 London flotation.

The mine's operating costs of \$175 an ounce make it one of the lowest cost gold producers in Africa, and the envy of many a South African mining group. The mine's reserves are said to be extensive enough to

ensure gold mining "well into the next century".

After a recent World Bank-backed expansion programme, Ashanti is scheduled to increase its annual gold production from 654,000 ounces to more than 1 million ounces by 1996.

Though not the mastermind behind the plan, Dieter Bock, the German financier who in February became Lonrho's joint chief executive, played a leading part in talks with the Ghanaian government about floating Ashanti. Herr Bock is known to be corporately in love with Africa and holds extensive private property interests in South Africa.

Meanwhile, James Capel,

the broker, is to joint lead an international offering of shares this month to raise up to \$100 million for the further development of the Björkdal gold mine in Sweden, whose gold production has risen from 45,000 ounces in 1990 and is expected to reach 86,000 ounces this year. The mine is Western Europe's largest producing gold mine. Terra Mining, which owns Björkdal, plans to develop two new mines from its existing portfolio with the proceeds of the share issue. It will be listed on the Stockholm stock exchange in October. Terra is 62 per cent owned by Norsk Hydro and others, who plan to sell half of their current holding.

## Lloyd's lists rules for corporate investors

By SARAH BAGNALL AND DEREK HARRIS



Fiona Karlin, outside Trinity College, Cambridge, is setting up an investment vehicle.

LLOYD'S of London will unveil today its rules for the entry of corporate capital, triggering a flood of sales prospectuses from financial institutions as they search out funds for the 1994 underwriting year.

Several banks and securities houses are steaming ahead with their plans to raise hundreds of millions of pounds to invest in Lloyd's.

The financial institutions have plans ranging from floating investment vehicles on the Stock Exchange to setting up venture capital and institutional-backed funds. The size of the intended vehicles varies from as high as £300 million to as low as £2 million. Samuel

Montagu and James Capel intend to raise £250 million to invest in at least eight of the managing agencies.

Last week, Barclays de Zoete Wedd said it was linking up with Sedgwick Group, one of the market's biggest insurance brokers, to form CLM Insurance Fund, a listed vehicle.

One of the biggest seekers of corporate funds is Merrett Group, the Lloyd's agency run by Stephen Merrett, who resigned last week as deputy chairman of Lloyd's.

After discovering that individual names were unlikely to commit enough funds for next year, the group announced it was seeking about £200 million of corporate capital.

At the other end of the spectrum is an investment vehicle being put together by Fiona Karlin, a barrister turned management consultant.

She said that Aldgate Corporate Investors, would be a comparatively small operation by the standards of most other likely newcomers, writing probably £2 million a time with ten or 15 syndicates.

Mrs Karlin has experience in helping hi-tech businesses raise venture capital backing. One client, Cambia Pharmaceuticals, of Cambridge, plans to list on the Stock Exchange.

## Invesco may be sued for £200m

THE trustees of the Mirror Group Pension Fund are planning to extend their litigation against Invesco MIM over its handling of the funds, with a legal claim that could total £200 million (Patricia Tehan writes).

Colin Cornwall, chairman of the pension fund, confirmed the trustees plan to make a decision on whether to extend

their initial claim of £11.3 million plus an unquantified amount for consequential loss to £200 million "in the next month". Mr Cornwall said if they decide to go ahead with the claim, which would be almost half Invesco's stock market value, it would cover the shortfall in the pension fund.

He said the claim would be widened to cover what the

trustees regard as negligence and dereliction of duty by Invesco in its "failure to inform people when they should have realised that something was wrong".

The administrators of the Robert Maxwell private companies are expected to unveil plans for a public offer of the 54.8 per cent of MGN shares on Wednesday.

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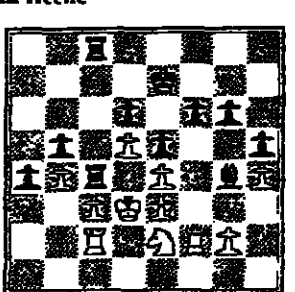
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## WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Lasker - Steinitz, World Championship, New York 1894. Black has a very active position and tremendous pressure. His deceptively simple next move forced White to recognise the hopelessness of his situation. What was it?



Solution on page 37

Championship Chess, page 5

## WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

## WHERRIT

- a. A Thames rowing-boat
- b. To tease
- c. Cross between weasel and ferret

## OPPLATIVE

- a. Conspicuous, ostive
- b. Besieging a city
- c. The predictive genitive case

## INDEFESSE

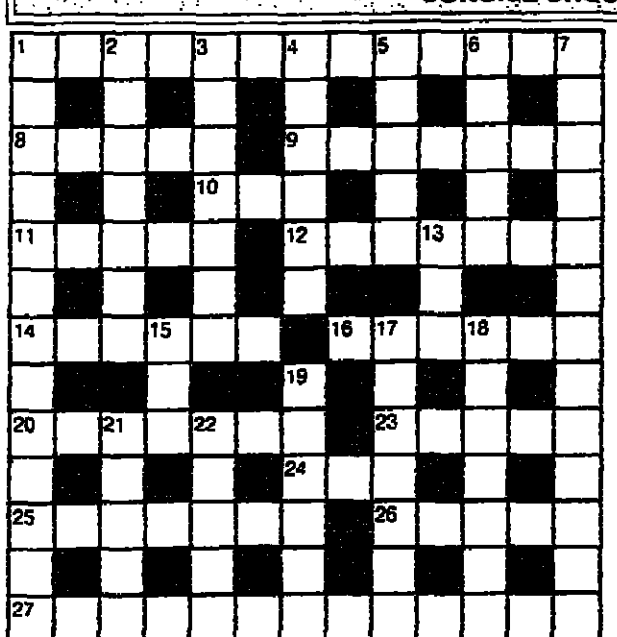
- a. A vertical band in heraldry
- b. Tireless
- c. Indefensible

## SIMONITE

- a. A type of granite
- b. A liberal defector
- c. A heretical stylist

Answers on page 37

## CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 3198



## ACROSS

- 1 Swagheart's elf (6,7)
- 8 Skip, leap (5)
- 9 Prolonged applause (7)
- 10 Mesh (3)
- 11 Insert (3)
- 12 Intensity (7)
- 14 Bleak (6)
- 16 SVO size (6)
- 20 Sickness (7)
- 23 Promotion (5,2)
- 24 Muscle twitch (3)
- 25 Contrary (7)
- 26 Lazy type (5)
- 27 Of good eating (13)

## DOWN

- 2 Queen's attendant (4,2,7)
- 3 Deer meat (7)
- 4 Go back in (2-5)
- 5 Cited (6)
- 6 Make ashamed (5)
- 7 Rule (5)
- 8 Junior No (5,8)
- 9 Pretend (3)
- 10 Large bear cask (3)
- 11 Bones, teeth element (7)
- 12 Kind and pure (7)
- 13 Behind ship (6)
- 14 Cherishes (5)
- 15 Mistake (5)

## SOLUTIONS TO NO 3197

- ACROSS: 1 Walks off 7 Trout 8 Tiger Moth 9 Eye 10 Heap 11 Parrot 13 Ruffal 14 Hang up 19 Soviet 20 Pier 21 Hut 23 Verdigris 24 Wince 25 Proposal
- DOWN: 1 Watcher 2 Luggage 3 Sort 4 Floral 5 Monet 6 Steel 7 Thermal 12 Survive 15 Gaiters 16 Parasol 17 Dearer 18 Showy 19 Stand 22 Wimp